The Daily and Weekly Commercial.

Newspapers Discontinued.—1. Any case where a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether it be taken in his name or another's, or whether he be subscribed or not—is responsible for the pay now.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all his arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

REMITTANCES must be made in Money Orders, Bank Checks or Drafts, if possible. When neither of these can be procured, send the Money in a Registered Letter. The present Registration system is virtually an Absolute Protection Against Losses by mail, and all Postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII.—NO. 16. WEEKLY EDITION. FEBRUARY 26, 1876.

The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Sunlield alley, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 2 cents; delivered by carriers (per week) 15 cents; subscribed by mail (per year), $10.00, postage pre-paid.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (50 issues), $1 75; in Clubs of Twenty and over $1 25, postage pre-paid; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club. The money must always accompany the Order, and in no instance can the terms be departed from.

Postmasters are requested to act as AGENTS.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 17, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock, Lieutenant Governor Latta in the Chair.

The following petitions were offered: Praying for the adoption of resolutions instructing our Senators and requesting our members of Congress to vote for the bill now before Congress asking Government aid in the construction of the Texas Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Clarke—Eight petitions against the repeal of the Prohibitory License law.

Bills Reported Affirmatively—Amending the penal laws, defining and providing for the punishment of the offense of unlawfully obtaining the key or means of opening any bank vault, safe or depository.

Act to facilitate the hearing of appeals and writs of error, by imposing the costs upon the parties, requiring security to be given therefor and requiring the Supreme Court to hold additional terms. With amendments.

Act requiring the statements of banks and banking companies, made to the Auditor General, to be published.

Bills Introduced—Act authorizing the supervisors of the different townships in the State to collect additional road tax on ore beds.

Act to compensate counsel assigned by the court to defend persons accused with felony in the courts of the State, providing that the amount shall not exceed fifteen dollars.

A supplementary act to the road laws, requiring compensation to be given, before new roads are opened, to the owners of the land through which the road passes.

Act to authorize the sale of merchandise from wagons and other vehicles at wholesale to dealers.

Act regulating the compensation of newspaper publishing the mercantile appraisers' lists in the several counties of the State, providing that hereafter all papers publishing the mercantile appraisers' lists shall be paid at the rate not exceeding their published rates, and that the sum so paid shall be paid by the Auditor General.

Mr. Stanton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be requested to return to the Senate the bill to define and suppress vagrancy. The resolution was adopted.

Bills on Third Reading—Act to regulate the sale of baled hay, &c., in the Commonwealth. Passed.

Act to repeal section four of an act to incorporate the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society. Postponed.

Act declaratory of the true intent of section sixty-six of the act to consolidate, revise and amend the penal laws of the Commonwealth. Recommitted, on motion of Mr. Jones.

Supplement to the act relating to executors and administrators, extending the provisions of said act to all sales of real estate made by order of the Orphans' Court. Passed.

Act defining the limitation in prosecutions for forgery. Passed.

Bills on Second Reading—Act to provide for the erection of a poor house and for the support of the poor in the several counties of the Commonwealth. Read and was amended as to let the question of the erection of such building to be decided by the vote of the county in which the building is proposed to be erected.

An act for the incorporation and regulation of banks of discount and deposit. Postponed. The above act prohibits banks from paying any interest on deposits.

Supplement to the act relating to the settlement of public accounts, authorizing the transfer of accounts from one corporation to another, in certain cases. Agreed to.

The Governor sent the following nomination to the Senate: Samuel Sebring, to be Judge of the District for the counties of Indiana, county of Indiana, until thirty days after the next election in said borough.

James E. Rogers, of Pittsburgh, and Jas. E. Sayers, of Waynesburg, were confirmed Notaries Public.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 10 A. M.

Bills on Second Reading—Act providing means for securing the health and safety of persons employed in the bituminous coal mines of Pennsylvania. The bill was read by sections. A number of amendments, perfecting it, were added by Mr. Jackson, who strongly advocated the cause of the workingmen employed in mines. Passed as amended.

Further supplement to the act entitled "An act concerning divorces," approved the 13th day of March, 1815. Called up by Mr. Wolfe. The bill allows courts to grant divorces in any case where either of the parties shall be convicted of felony or perjury and received sentenced for any term exceeding two years.

Mr. Wolfe read the divorce laws of other States of the Union and advocated the passage of the bill.

Mr. Gunster spoke forcibly against the bill, claiming that no argument in its favor had been advanced, except in the shape of other States, and pointed to the effect of pernicious laws for divorce on other countries in other times, advocating, in conclusion, the repeal of the old, instead of the enactment of the new divorce law.

Mr. Leach favored the bill in a lengthy speech, abounding in Scriptural references.

Mr. Hays opposed the bill in a short speech.

It was gone up to meet some special case.

Pending the discussion of the bill, the House adjourned.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 18, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 10 A. M., Lieutenant Governor Latta in the Chair.

Reports of Committees—Mr. Ermentrout—Reconsimited bill relating to costs in criminal cases. With amendments.

Act enabling camp meetings to employ a police force. As committed.

Mr. Woodward, to provide for the appointment of commissioners to prepare new charters for cities of the second class. Affirmatively.

Act authorize the appointment of stenographers in the courts of the State. With amendments.

Mr. Strang—Authorizing the Governor to appoint commissioners to devise systems or plans for the government of cities of the Commonwealth. As committed.

Bills Introduced—Mr. Lamon—To correct errors in transcribing the act of Assembly entitled "An act to punish the sale and traffic in mineral water bottles and for the protection of bottlers and vendors of mineral waters," &c.

Bills Passed Finally—To provide for the erection of a poorhouse and for the support of the poor in the various counties of the Commonwealth.

Repealing the act of February 17, 1820, prohibiting horse racing, so far as the same relates to agricultural societies and other incorporated associations.

Supplement to the act relating to the settlement of public accounts, approved April 8, 1869, authorizing the transfer of accounts from one corporation to another in certain cases.

To require the teaching of drawing in all the common schools of the State.

Relating to the publication of legal advertisements in the several counties of this Commonwealth.

Bills on Second Reading—Supplement to the act relating to Orphans' Courts, approved March, 1875. Agreed to.

Joint resolution requesting the Attorney General to proceed by writ of *quo warranto* to forfeit the franchises of a corporation chartered under the name of "The Union Line and Juniata Railroad Company," now known as "The Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Railroad Company." Agreed to.

Further supplement to the act relating to Orphans' Courts, approved March 29, 1832, designed to extend the fourteenth section of said act so as to authorize investments by executors, trustees and other persons holding property in a fiduciary capacity, in bonds or certificates of debt created by any counties, cities or municipal corporations of the Commonwealth. Agreed to.

Further supplement to the act regulating elections, providing for assessors in boroughs, wards or townships divided into two or more election districts. Agreed to.

Adjourned until Monday evening at eight o'clock.

HOUSE.

The House met at 10 A. M. A large number of petitions were presented and properly referred to committees.

Mr. Stewart offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That after Friday, March 3d, no bill shall be read in place, and after Friday, March 10th, no House bill shall be reported from committees.

Quite a lengthy and animated debate ensued upon this resolution, which was participated in by Messrs. Spang, Irwin, Shighard, Long, Emerick, Fackler, Faries, Talley and Darby against the resolution, on the ground that the House was in no condition as regards work to, as yet, pass a resolution of this kind. The resolution was favored by Messrs. Stewart, Wolfe, Morgan, of Lawrence, and Huhn, who held that the Legislature should adjourn at an early day, and that fixing the time when no bill should be read in place was the first step toward an adjournment. The debate on this question was the most general and interesting that has taken place in the House during the present session, and continued nearly two hours. A regular political warfare was waged between the two sides of the House, and repartee was freely indulged in. Mr. Stewart pressed his resolution in a forcible and able speech, while Mr. Morgan, of Lawrence, defended his colleague, whose motives had been impugned by the Democrats on the floor for offering the resolution. He continued his remarks for about half an hour, in his usual impressive style. He was attentively listened to throughout, and at the close of his remarks was warmly congratulated by the Republican members. Three attempts were made to adjourn the debate on the question by the Democrats before that consummation was effected by the sustaining of the previous question. The resolution was not agreed to, on a call of the yeas and nays, by a vote of 61 yeas to 89 nays.

Mr. Fogel submitted a resolution, which was adopted, providing for afternoon sessions of the House on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from three to six o'clock, commencing on Tuesday, the 23d inst.

Mr. Smith, of Berks, submitted a resolution to limit speeches to ten minutes, which was laid over under the rules.

The House adjourned until Monday evening at 7:30 P. M.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 21, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 7:30 P. M., Lieutenant Governor Latta in the Chair. Bills on first reading occupied the evening, after which the Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE.

The House met at 7:30 P. M. The report of the Board of the State Lunatic Asylum was read. Letters, petitions, memorials, remonstrances, etc., were read and properly referred, as follows:

Petition of citizens of Bedford county, remonstrating against the repeal of the law library.

Mr. Morgan, of Lawrence—Petition of citizens of New Castle, asking the repeal of the tax on trades and occupations; also of citizens of Lawrence county, asking the modification of the act of April 24, 1874, relating to township auditors.

Mr. Toner presented the petition of citizens of Freeport, praying for the repeal of the prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. Hays—Petition of citizens of Sawickley township, Westmoreland county, praying for the repeal of the road law in said township.

Mr. Carson presented the following petition from prominent citizens of Pittsburgh, asking for the separation of the suburban districts which now comprise the Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third wards, from the city of Pittsburgh.

To the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

The undersigned, citizens of Pittsburgh, respectfully represent that by the Act of Consolidation of April 6, 1867, Collins, Pebles and other townships of farm lands were taken in and included in the territorial limits of said city; that by unfair and unjust provisions of said act, the people of the old city were allowed to, and did vote said rural districts in, against their will, as expressed at the polls at the election provided by said act; that subsequent experience shows this unnatural union of urban with large districts of rural property under the same form of municipal government to be disastrous to both sections, without deriving any benefits whatever, or the possibility of any benefit to result from the Bureau of Fire or Water Departments of the city to the farms and agricultural lands in question. They are subjected to taxation for these and other benefits the city furnishes generally more than double and frequently three times more than the gross rental of the their property, and amounting to virtual confiscation, as the sale of such annuances the land cannot be sold or disposed of. Your petitioners therefore pray that a proper commission be appointed to examine into the matter of the city's appeals all and every improvement made by said city in said rural districts since consolidation, and ascertain all the money expended therein or for the said report, the proper method of assessment and repayment thereof to the city, after deducting for taxes already paid said rural property, and to report the proper line of division between actually urban and rural districts of said city, with a view to their separation; and to make such report and recommendations for such division and rescission of districts reported, as rural, to their former status as townships of said county. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

B. L. FAHNESTOCK,
ALEX. KING,
JAMES H. HOPKINS,
JAMES MARR,
JAMES KELLY,
JOSEPH DILWORTH,
C. H. PAULSON,
A. L. RUSSELL,
HILL BURGWIN.

Various motions were made regulating daily sessions of the House hereafter, when, on motion of Mr. Cochran, of Allegheny, the House agreed to meet daily on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from eleven to one o'clock, and from four to six o'clock afternoons. Yeas 92, nays 52.

Mr. Smith, of Berks, called up his resolution that hereafter no members shall speak on any one subject for a longer period than ten minutes.

Mr. Huhn moved to amend by adding "unless by permission of the House." Agreed to.

One thousand copies of the Adjutant General's report were ordered printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Smith, of Chester, offered the following resolution: "That when the House meets to-morrow, Tuesday, the 22d, after the reading of the Journal, the Clerk read Washington's farewell address; that the House thereafter adjourn to Wednesday."

Mr. Irwin moved to amend so that Washington's farewell address shall be read, but the House refused to adjourn.

Mr. Losch offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, Complaint has been made by citizens of Pennsylvania, owners and navigators of canalboats and barges plying between places in this State and points upon the public waters of the State of New York, that an injurious and oppressive discrimination exists against their said vessels and property in cargoes of coal engaged in the navigation of the canals of the State of New York, by the act of May 6, 1870, and the supplement thereto, passed April 25, 1872; therefore be it

Resolved, If the Senate concur, That the Executive of the State of Pennsylvania be requested to communicate with the Executive of the State of New York, calling his attention to said discrimination and requesting him to call the attention of the Legislature of the State of New York to the injurious operations of the same upon the interests of Pennsylvania and its citizens, requesting such equitable amendment thereof as may place the citizens of this State on the same equality in the State of New York as is secured by law to the citizens of the State of New York in all parts of the State of Pennsylvania. Agreed to.

Mr. Carson read the following bill in place: Act for the relief of agricultural lands included within city or municipal territorial boundaries. The above act is intended as a general law for the State. It provides that when any citizen do not receive city benefits, they shall not be required to pay city taxes.

Mr. Zern read in place an act to repeal the prohibitory liquor law in the borough of Monongahela City and Carroll township, Washington county; also an act to repeal the prohibitory liquor law in Harrison township, Allegheny county.

Bills on First Reading—A number of bills passed first reading, among which the following were the most important:

Supplementary act to provide for the appointment of a State Board of Centennial Managers for the Centennial Exhibition and to defray the expenses thereof.

Act making appropriations for the salaries of officers and employees and for the improvement of the grounds and building of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane at Dixmont.

Act making an appropriation to provide for an educational display at the Centennial Exhibition, to erect a suitable school house or structure building for the purpose.

Act making appropriations for the salaries of officers and for repairs of the Western Penitentiary and for books and stationery for prisoners.

Act fixing the compensation of county officers of counties containing less than 150,000 inhabitants, providing for the payment of all fines received by them into the county treasury.

Adjourned.

The Democratic members of the House will meet in caucus Tuesday evening, at seven o'clock, to deliberate and fix a day for the final adjournment of the House.

BIG INDIAN STORY.

Sioux, Cheyennes and Arrapahoes Said to be Preparing for War on an Extensive Scale.

OMAHA, February 17.—I have the most competent and reliable official authority for the statement that the Sioux, Cheyennes and Arrapahoe Indians have been and are yet making the most extensive preparations possible for an outbreak in a very few weeks. They have been purchasing a quantity of ammunition and arms wherever they could get them, going as far south as the Indian Territory for this purpose. It has been known for some time that the best fighting men had deserted the agencies and are roving in the Big Horn, Powder river and Tongue river countries, concentrating and arranging their forces for this war. There are at the agencies and on the reservations only those who are too infirm and disabled to be of use, and the families of those warriors who have left. So far as is known, the Indians will likely strike the frontier settlements, unless something is promptly done, and will do terrible work before they can be overpowered.

Rumors of a proposed consolidation of the Anglo-American and Direct Cable Companies are again in circulation.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17, 1876.

Speaker *Pro Tempore* Appointed.

At a conference of leading Democrats this morning, the subject of a Speaker *pro tem.* was considered. Randall, who was present, was urged to accept the office, but declined, giving as a reason that he was now familiar with the duties of Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and would prefer to remain in that position. He suggested the name of Mr. Cox, which was agreed to, and Mr. Randall was designated to nominate that gentleman. The point of order whether the Speaker *pro tem.* should be sworn caused the Democrats in the House no little suspicion, as they feared another trap was being set for them by Blaine, Garfield and Wheeler. The House was not disposed to let their control go. It was stated in conversation that, should Kerr die, to have been sworn in would make Cox Speaker in fact, which they wished to prevent, as Mr. Cox is inclined to be erratic and hasty in his views of dignity sometimes.

State of Mr. Kerr's Health.

The friends of Mr. Kerr express fears that he will not again preside over the House. He will return here in a few days, after consulting with his physician in New York, and will then, it is said, ask a further leave of absense to enable him to visit the South for his health.

Resajustment of Revenue Force.

Should the reduction of gaugers and storekeepers of internal revenue pass, the Commissioner will have the authority to adjust his force in the districts as he may think best for the service.

Sheridan Before the Military Committee.

Lieutenant General Sheridan to-day, before the House Military Committee, showed that by the transfer of the Indian management to the War Department there could be a saving of expenses in the consolidation and abolition of military posts. He opposed the army reduction, showing that the existing force is inadequate to the demands of the service.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 18, 1876.

The Bankrupt Act.

It is intimated that the Senate Judiciary Committee will not adopt the House bill absolutely repealing the Bankrupt act, as it believed that it would not be conducive to the best interests of the country. it is probable that if the committee takes any action it will report a measure retaining the best features of the present bill and remedying its defects.

The Liberals Coming Home.

It is already known that the majority of the Liberal members in either House of Congress have indicated a determination to co-operate with the Republicans. Correspondence with the leaders of that movement discloses the fact that since the November elections, and especially the course of the Democratic party in the House, have had the effect of creating a similar disposition among the Liberals of the country. These leaders are now contemplating an arrangement by which they may return to the party with a reasonable share of recognition.

Washburne the Liberal Candidate for President.

A gentleman, recently returned from Europe, states that he was in Paris at the time of the presence of Carl Schurz in that city, and that that Liberal leader was in frequent conference with Minister Washburne. It was whispered about among prominent Americans in the French capital, that the principal object of Mr. Schurz's visit was to unite the Liberal and Republican forces on Washburne for the Presidential nomination. It is reported that Mr. Washburne was favorable to such a proposition, and that he went so far as to state that he would not accept, unless he had undoubted assurances of the Liberal support in the event of his being nominated. The result of the conference with Mr. Schurz was sufficient to convince Mr. Schurz that a movement of this kind might be made a success, and his political actions after his return were shaped accordingly. A conversation with a Liberal member to-day, the opinion was expressed that some suitable person from the Liberal wing of the Republican party should receive the Vice Presidential nomination.

Mexican Border Outrages.

General Sheridan has had several conferences with Representative Schleicher, of the Committee on Outrages on the Mexican Border, in which he advocated the policy of pursuing the Mexican cattle thieves until caught, without regard to boundaries, and punishing them when caught, with an effective dose of powder and lead. He also recommended that two of the regular regiments be recruited up to the war standard, as that would be sufficient to overawe the Mexicans, and additional regiments for this service. A bill embodying these views, as to the military force for this special duty, will be introduced at an early day. Should this bill pass, it seems probable, the Fourth and Eighth Regiments of cavalry will be recruited up for operations along the Rio Grande.

Court of Appeals for Pittsburgh.

The defeat of the House bill relative to the act reorganizing the judiciary, requiring the Court of Appeals of the Third Circuit to sit in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh alternately, does not finally dispose of that question. Should the bill pass the House, the amendment will be again presented in the Senate. The Chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary says that he will not then oppose it. There were pending July 1, 1875, 490 cases in the Western District of Pennsylvania in which appeals could be taken to the Court of Appeals. This would require citizens of Western Pennsylvania to go to Philadelphia, at a large outlay.

J. S. McCalmont is here, making an effort to succeed Judge McCandless. It is stated that Mr. McCalmont's first evidence of Republicanism was his voting for Grant in 1872.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 20, 1876.

Condition of the Consular Service.

The House Committee on Expenditures in the State Department held a meeting of three hours duration yesterday, during which time they interrogated Mr. Keim, late agent of the United States for the examination of consular affairs, with reference to his mission, the condition of the consular service of the United States and as to what measures had been adopted or attempted to carry out his suggestions. Mr. Keim said that he was appointed under the act of July, 1870; that the complaints which had been made against the consular service by American travelers having been ignored by the Department of State, it became necessary to institute inquiries independently of the Department, and therefore he was required to report to the Secretary of the Treasury. In the prosecution of his mission he received every facility that could be accorded by the Government. In addition to his commission, letter of instruction and letter of credit, he received from the Department of State a passport, announcing his official character and requesting foreign nations to allow him to pass freely through their dominions, and a circular letter addressed to the consular officers of the United States, directing them to accord him every facility for the carrying out of the objects of his mission; also a letter, signed by Admiral Rodgers, of the Navy Department, addressed to commanders of fleets, squadrons and ships, authorizing Mr. Keim to make use of United States vessels, if necessary, in visiting consular ports. Mr. Keim said that he mentioned this in answer to the efforts made in the Department of State to throw discredit upon his mission. He then said that, so far as the inefficiency of the consular service was concerned, he found that a degree of irresponsibility existed during the administration of President Buchanan as great as has ever existed since, and cited instances mentioned in his published reports, but said that it was immaterial under what party they occurred; they were a disgrace to the American name. His mission was an expensive one, and he wished to effect beneficial results. In his acceptance of the mission, he mentioned his views to the President, and he directed him to make the investigations thorough, without reference to individuals or who were struck.

Consulate General at Shanghai.

In response to a question about the Consulate General at Shanghai, Mr. Keim said that the Treasury Department had for several years been in possession of information respecting the delinquencies of Mr. Seward, but that they had been powerless to act, on account of the opposition of the Department of State. Hence, before starting, all the information in possession of the Treasury Department was laid before him and specific orders were given with respect to the Consulate General under Mr. Seward, now Minister of China, in making special inquiry. The investigations elicited, to his satisfaction, that Mr. Seward had, through a firm, sold the American flag to Chinese boats, thus being a party to the conspiracy and direct contravention of the treaty between the United States and China; that he had abused, either directly or indirectly, his judicial powers by the extortion of large sums in the settlement of the estates of deceased American citizens; that a shipping office was maintained, from which benefits accrued; that he was interested in sailors' boarding houses, and that he realized profit from the licensing of drinking houses. Mr. Keim said that this information was communicated to him by American merchants and others, who made the statements under the promise that they were not to be named, as the Consul General would have it in his power to ruin them. He mentioned that one of the consular clerks, Mr. Lewis, called on him several times, and shortly after his departure, the consular clerk was dismissed. Mr. Keim then explained the abuses which were committed in the enlistment, discharge and relief of seamen, in the use of the relief fund and the payment of extra wages and in the verification of invoices, and explained the various schemes which were resorted to for profit, such as boarding houses, sailors' hospitals, running out ships, etc.

Hostile Attitude of the State Department.

In reply to a question whether any attempt to reform the service had been made, Mr. Keim alluded to the persistent hostility of the Department of State. He said that when he started, as his papers from the Government showed, they were not unfriendly to his mission, but that this state of feeling changed upon the receipt of the report about the Consulate General under Mr. Seward, that person having been retained from the previous administration, at the instance of Mr. Fish; that after that the Department, retiring upon its dignity, did all in its power to deprecate the mission and its results. He stated that whenever consular reform was broached, the State Department rushed in with a bill "providing for a reorganization of the consular service," but which in fact was nothing more than the then existing service in the form of a new bill. This answered the purpose of warding off the real issue. The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Forty-third Congress had a similar measure. This pamphlet is based on the amendment of Mr. McMillan, providing that any person availing himself of the provisions of the act shall, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, declare that he has never executed any mortgage or other instrument on said land or any part thereof, by or under which the title may be vested in any other person. After discussion, the amendment of Mr. McMillan was agreed to.

Mr. SARGENT submitted an amendment requiring any person availing himself of the provisions of the act to declare, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, that he has made no agreement or contract by which the title to acquire from the Government of the United States, or any right in said land or timber thereon, should inure in whole or in part, to any other person, etc. Agreed to.

Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

The House opened this morning with no one present in the Speaker's chair, Mr. Kerr being absent on leave of absence, and omitting to appoint a Speaker *pro tem.* The duty of executing that office devolved, therefore, on the House, and as soon as the Chaplain had concluded prayer, Mr. RANDALL nominated Mr. Cox.

Mr. CLYMER moved to amend the motion by substituting the name of Mr. Blackburn for Mr. Cox, but, by Mr. Blackburn's request, his name was withdrawn, and Mr. Cox was selected.

Mr. GARFIELD moved that the oath of office be administered to the Speaker *pro tem.*, and made an argument in favor of his position.

Mr. RANDALL contended that it was not necessary, and cited numerous precedents.

Mr. SPEER suggested that duties were imposed on the Speaker, such as signing bills, approving the Journal, &c., which no unsworn officer had a right to perform.

The discussion was continued at considerable length, Mr. Garfield's proposition being sustained by Messrs. Conger, of Kentucky, Reagan and Benson; and assailed by Messrs. Blaine and Wheeler. The vote was taken, and the motion of Mr. Garfield was rejected—92 ayes, 124 nays.

The House then took up the bill for the reorganization of the judiciary. After discussion, Mr. SAYLER moved to lay it on the table. Rejected.

The House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1876.

HOUSE.

Mr. BLACKBURN offered a resolution calling on the President for information as to whether any executive acts or duties have been performed since the first of March, 1869, at a distance from the seat of Government, and for how long a period any one time, and in what part of the United States; also whether any public necessity existed therefor. Objection being made to its present consideration, the resolution was laid over for one day.

Mr. ROBBINS, of North Carolina, offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to whether, since the 20th of March, 1865, any military officers have accepted and held any appointment in the diplomatic or consular service and were still borne on the army list, and whether any officer, having received such an appointment, now holds his rank in the army and draws pay therefor, and, if so, by what authority. Referred.

Mr. CASON offered a resolution declaring the twenty-second of the present month, George Washington's birthday, a national holiday. Adopted.

The House then, as the special order, took up the consideration of the bill to reorganize the judiciary of the United States.

Mr. GARFIELD made argument in support of the amendment to the bill, which proposes, instead of having a Court of Appeals at Louisville, that it sitting successively at Louisville, Cincinnati and Cleveland.

Mr. KNOTT, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, closed the discussion with a speech in favor of the bill. He appealed to members not to endanger the passage of the bill by rivalries of localities. Personally, he was willing to fix the first day of the places where courts were to be held; that question had been determined with almost entire unanimity by the committee, and, by unanimous consent, the day was fixed by the Judges of the Supreme Court. As to the question between Cincinnati and Louisville, he suggested that the difference in distance was but little, and that under the present system of travel there was but four hours difference in time between these two cities, and accommodations for the transaction of business in the one is equal to that given in the other. He thought the safety of the bill required the voting down of all proposed amendments, except that providing for the consolidation of the existing New York for Albany. The latter amendment was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. KNOTT, the tenth section was amended by inserting the words "except in capital cases," so as to provide that writs of error shall not operate, in criminal cases, a stay of criminal proceedings, except in capital cases.

The next amendment voted on was that of Mr. PAYNE, to strike out the word "Louisville" and insert the words "Louisville, Cincinnati and Cleveland successively." Negatived.

The next amendment was that of Mr. LAWRENCE, to substitute Cincinnati for Louisville. Agreed to.

The amendment offered by Mr. BRADFORD, to substitute Mobile for New Orleans, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. HOPKINS, to insert after the word "Philadelphia," the words "and Pittsburgh alternately," was rejected.

The next amendment offered by Mr. REAGAN, to reduce the limit within which appeals are to be allowed, from $10,000 to $5,000, was rejected.

The next amendment was one offered by Mr. REAGAN, to strike out the thirteenth section, which allows the expenses of district judges while attending courts of appeal at places other than their own residences. Negatived—Yeas 120, nays 126.

The amendment offered by Mr. WELLS, to substitute Jackson for New Orleans, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. HOOKER, to add a provision that the senior judge in the Court of Appeals shall not preside in any case decided by him as such district judge, was agreed to.

The amendment offered by Mr. O'BRIEN to substitute Baltimore for Richmond, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. TUCKER, allowing appeals in all criminal cases, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. NEW, to substitute Indianapolis for Louisville, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. BAKER, to add, after the word "Louisville," the words "and Indianapolis alternately," was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. WELSHIRE, to substitute Little Rock for St. Louis, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. VANCE, adding to the word "Richmond" the words "and Raleigh alternately," was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. LAMHAM, requiring the Court of Appeals to be held at New York and Syracuse alternately, was rejected.

The amendment offered by Mr. CALDWELL, requiring the Court of Appeals to be held at Cincinnati, Louisville and Nashville alternately, was rejected.

This disposed of all the amendments that had been offered.

Pending a vote on ordering the bill to third reading the House adjourned. The session to-morrow will be for general debate only.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, 1876.

WEEKLY TREASURY STATEMENT.

The following is a statement of balances in the United States Treasury at the close of business to-day: Currency, $10,100,384; special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates, $1,000,000; coin, $50,560; coin, including $33,780,900 in coin certificates, $75,051,625; outstanding legal tenders, $371,273,140.

The Treasury now holds $358,428,650 in bonds to secure bank circulation, and $18,621,500 to secure public deposits. National bank circulation outstanding $341,557,911, out of which about $2,099,280 are gold certificates.

The receipts from internal revenue today were $287,690 19; for the month to date, $6,965,055 09; for the fiscal year to date, $72,760,213 40.

The receipts from customs to-day were $519,093 27; for the month to date, $8,904,737 16; for the fiscal year to date, $86,778,073 56.

SILVER AS LEGAL TENDER.

The silver question is receiving much attention in this city, and there is no doubt a strong effort will be made during the present session of Congress to practically restore the double standard of gold and silver by the coinage of a full valued silver dollar, to be a legal unlimited tender with gold coins of the present standard. The proposition has many advocates among what are termed the soft money men.

CONGRESSIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

FORTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY.

The Congressional Temperance Society held its forty-third anniversary to-night. Opening remarks were made by Senator Ferry, recently selected President of the Society. A resolution in memory of the late Vice President Wilson, offered by Senator Blaine, was passed. Addresses were delivered by Hon. J. H. Seelye and Rev. Dr. Chickering.

A WEEKLY LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS

issued to the inventors of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending February 15, 1876. Reported by telegraph expressly for the COMMERCIAL, by A. H. Evans & Co., Patent Solicitors, May Building, Washington, D. C.:

PENNSYLVANIA.

H. M. Engle, Marietta—Hoe.
J. M. Fetterolf, Philadelphia—Boiler furnace.
F. Ballou, Allegheny—Boiler covering.
L. Becker, York—Weather strip.
F. F. Schlade, Philadelphia—Plaiting machine.
H. Hawson, Philadelphia—Chair.
J. F. Hill, Philadelphia—Button hole cutter.
I. Geiser, Reading—Dumping wagon.
J. R. Honk and D. Williamsport, Williamsport—Swing.
C. A. Goude, Philadelphia—Spring bed.
H. Disston, Philadelphia—Saw handle.
T. T. Gates, Philadelphia—Boot and shoe machine.
H. A. Kroberger, Philadelphia—Glossing cotton.
W. H. Fisher, Selins Grove—Skate sharpener.
D. Manley, Franklin—Brick machine.
J. D. Pilson, Philadelphia—Furnace.
W. D. Herschel, Philadelphia—Sowing machine.
G. B. Polen, Philadelphia—Printers' quoin.
A. M. Steele, Oil City—Guard for oil tanks.
W. S. Colwell, Pittsburgh—Brick kiln furnace.
H. Davis, Erie—Steam cooker.
J. Hayden, Philadelphia—Drawers.
A. Heald, Philadelphia—Loom.
E. Scheppers, Philadelphia—Fabrics.
E. T. Starr, Philadelphia—Dental engine.
C. A. Teal, Philadelphia—Bending metal plates.
Design.—S. H. Clark, Philadelphia—Badge.
R. B. Esler, Philadelphia—Watch chain.
Trade Mark.—A. F. Benton, Freedom—Mineral oil.
Wallower Oil Company, Smith's Ferry—Oil.
J. Goebert, Philadelphia—Cigars and tobacco.

OHIO.

H. Warwig, Cincinnati—Fawcet.
J. A. Worley, Cleveland—Boot cleaner.
J. G. Cowan, Piqua—Chain pump bucket.
H. C. F. Sohn, Cleveland—Painting.
J. S. Rowland, Senecaville—Lifting jack.
A. D. Lee, Tiffin—Flower pot and vases.
G. Rogers, Mt. Vernon—Traction wheel.
D. Leib, Rich Hill—Bottome staff.
D. Leib, Rich Hill—Flour bolt.
E. P. Shaw, Chatham Center—Hedge fastener.
M. D. Olmsted—Fence.
J. Hinkley, Norwalk—Knitting machine.
L. M. Hosea, Cincinnati—Spark conveyor.
J. J. Markel, Nankin—Mortise socket.
J. M. Locke, Cincinnati—Valve.
G. H. Morgan, Uhrichsville—Type writing.
G. F. Roberts, Norwalk—Piano attachment.
J. Ashcroft, Frazeysburg—Corn planter.
S. E. Bander, Birmingham—Croquet mallet.
H. H. Crane, Cincinnati—Steam boiler.
F. G. Merriam, Akron—Pipes.
W. W. Baldwin, Cleveland—Stove.
J. E. Baster, J. D. Joslin, N. E. Warren, F. L. Chamberlain and D. Richmond, Cleveland—Manufacture of rubber belting.
Design—C. M. Murch, Cincinnati—Summer chariot.
Trade Mark—Schultz & Co., Zanesville—soap.
Wire Manufacturing Company, Cleveland—Sewing machine.

A Black Hills party is organizing at Helena, Montana. One hundred and twenty-five men will leave in a few days.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. MORRILL, from the Committee on Education and Labor, reported, with two amendments, the Senate bill to establish an educational fund and apply a portion of the proceeds of public lands to public education, and to provide for the more complete endowment and support of national colleges, for the advancement of scientific and industrial education. Placed on the calendar. In presenting the bill he said the committee was unanimous in its favor.

Mr. HOWE presented a petition, which he said purported to be signed by citizens of Wisconsin, asking the passage of a law requiring the Treasurer of the United States to pay to every man, woman and child residing in the country, without distinction on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, the sum of $50 per capita, such sum to be paid every Saturday night, at the postoffice nearest the residence of such person. He said there was no limitation as to time, but to prevent any undue expansion of currency, the petitioners thought that no more than $5,000,000,000 should be issued in any one year. He was not entirely certain that this was a wise measure. [Laughter.] It was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate took up unfinished business, being the report of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the joint resolution to pay interest on the 3-65 District bonds.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN, the report was recommitted that the resolution might be perfected.

The Senate then took up the bill to provide for the sale of timber lands in the States of California and Oregon and in the Territories of the United States, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. McMillan, providing that any person availing himself of the provisions of the act shall, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, declare that he has never executed any mortgage or other instrument on said land or any part thereof, by or under which the title may be vested in any other person. After discussion, the amendment of Mr. McMillan was agreed to.

Mr. SARGENT submitted an amendment requiring any person availing himself of the provisions of the act to declare, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, that he has made no agreement or contract by which the title to acquire from the Government of the United States, or any right in said land or timber thereon, should inure in whole or in part, to any other person, etc. Agreed to.

Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

The House opened this morning with no one present in the Speaker's chair, Mr. Kerr being absent on leave of absence, and omitting to appoint a Speaker *pro tem.* The duty of executing that office devolved, therefore, on the House, and as soon as the Chaplain had concluded prayer, Mr. RANDALL nominated Mr. Cox.

Mr. CLYMER moved to amend

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 22, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock by Lieutenant Governor Latta.

On motion of Mr. Bussey, Washington's Farewell Address was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Bussey offered a resolution for printing 5,000 copies of the Farewell Address. Laid over and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Bussey also moved that the Senate do now adjourn, which was lost.

The following petitions were offered:

Messrs. Newmyer, Wood, McNeil and Anderson all presented petitions of citizens of Pittsburgh for the passage of an act enlarging the jurisdiction of aldermen in cities of the second and third classes in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Clarke—To authorize courts to decree private sales of real estate in certain cases.

Mr. Bussey—Joint resolution for the relocation and remarking of the boundary line known as "Mason and Dixon's line," between the States of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Mr. Lamon—Relieving members of beneficial societies from individual liability for lodge indebtedness.

Mr. Cochran—To repeal the act authorizing railroad corporations to secure payment of their bonds and obligations by a mortgage upon their property, rights and franchises, approved March 15, 1873.

Also supplementary to the act providing for the health and safety of persons employed in coal mines, approved March 3, 1870, increasing the number of inspectors of coal mines and collieries.

Mr. Barnett—Exempting railroad and other corporations from taxation of capital stock until a dividend of six per cent. annum per annum shall have been declared.

Mr. Bragdins, from citizens of Mercer county—Asking for the passage of an act making a legal rate of interest six per cent., in the absence of a contract authorizing a higher rate.

Mr. Yutzy—Petition of 723 citizens of Lancaster and Bradford counties for the repeal of so much of the game laws as prohibits the hunting of deer during the month of December.

Mr. Wilson—Petition of citizens of Armstrong county for an act making the legal rate of interest six per cent., and legalizing contracts at a higher or lower rate.

Mr. Anderson, of Allegheny—Petition of citizens of Pittsburgh asking for the passage of a law providing for the withdrawal of certain rural wards from the consolidated city of Pittsburgh.

Bills Introduced—Act regulating fishing in the river Delaware.

Mr. Yutzy—Repealing the act, approved April 15th, 1869, transferring Somerset county from the Western District to the Middle District for the Supreme Court.

Mr. Anderson, of Allegheny, for the punishment of cruelty to animals.

Mr. Cochran—Supplementary act to the election laws, requiring Sheriffs' proclamations, etc., relative to elections, to be published in not more than two newspapers, in a brief form, at regular rates.

Mr. Wood also offered the following:

Resolved, That, until otherwise ordered, the Senate will meet at 10:30 A. M. and adjourn at 1 P. M., and that on to-day and to-morrow it will meet at 10 A. M. and adjourn at 1 P. M.;" which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Burnett, the Senate, in honor of the birthday of George Washington, adjourned until 10 A. M. to-morrow.

HOUSE.

The House met at 11 A. M.

Pursuant to the resolution offered by Mr. Smith, of Chester, last night, Washington's Farewell Address was read to the House by the Chief Clerk.

Mr. Lusk offered the following resolution, which, after objections on the part of Messrs. Hays, Reighard, Carson, Stahle and others, was adopted:

WHEREAS, This is the anniversary of the birthday of George Washington, the Father of his Country, in this the centennial year of its existence; and

WHEREAS, This is to be observed throughout the land as a great national holiday; and

WHEREAS, Proper respect and regard for this day demand some recognition at our hands; therefore

Resolved, That the House do now adjourn, to meet again in session to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

The House then adjourned.

The General Judiciary Committee of the House, to-day referred Mr. Carson's resolution asking that the House appoint a committee to investigate the municipal water bond indebtedness of the city of Pittsburgh, with a favorable report, and the House will, on an affirmative recommendation, in a day or two.

Attorney General Lear, in response to Senator Lamon, writes as follows in regard to the petitions to detach certain rural East End districts from Pittsburgh: "I am satisfied that such proposed legislation would be unconstitutional, as it would conflict with only one, but several provisions of the Constitution, and is in conflict with its whole spirit. The time of the Legislature, therefore, will be wasted in considering and passing such a bill."

The Democratic caucus, which met in the hall of the House this evening, after considerable desultory debate, finally concluded that it was inexpedient at present to fix any time for final adjournment.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 23, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 10 A. M., Lieutenant Governor Latta in the chair.

A number of bills were introduced:

Mr. Yutzy—To improve the breed of horses in Somerset county, requiring keepers of stallions to take out an annual license therefor.

Mr. Cooper—Act conferring upon Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas for the several counties of the State the power to appoint commissioners, with authority to take depositions.

Mr. Newmyer—To authorize the cancellation of trusts of real and personal estate, where the same has been or may be hereafter bequeathed or devised to married women.

Bills on Third Reading—Relative to costs in criminal cases. Amended and laid over.

Supplement to the act relating to Orphans' Courts, approved March 18, 1875. Lost.

Joint resolution instructing the Attorney General to proceed by writ of *quo warranto* to forfeit the franchises of the corporation chartered under the title of "the State Line and Sullivan railroad company," now known as "the Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Railroad Company." Agreed to.

Further supplement to the act relating to Orphans' Courts, approved March 29, 1832, designed to extend the fourteenth section of said act so as to authorize investments of executors, administrators and other persons holding property in a fiduciary capacity, in bonds or certificates of debt created by any counties, cities or municipal corporations of the Commonwealth. Agreed to.

Further supplement to the act regulating elections, providing for assessors in boroughs, wards or districts, divided into two or more election districts. Postponed.

To authorize the appointment of a suitable person as Superintendent of Insane, in charge of the Marine Hospital at Erie. Agreed to.

Bills on Second Reading—For the prevention of cruel and unnecessary experiments upon dumb animals; amended so as not to apply to experiments made to discover facts not already known to science. Agreed to.

To create a Board of Health for the protection of life and health and to prevent the spread of diseases in the Commonwealth. Lost.

Relating to mechanics' claims, authorizing the amendment of the same. On motion of Mr. Ermentrout recommitted to the Judiciary General Committee.

Creating separate Orphans' Courts of this Commonwealth to try, by jury, issues of fact of *devastavit vel non* and others, and providing for the exercise of such jurisdiction. Amended and laid over.

Act authorizing an increase of the indebtedness of any city of the second class in the Commonwealth. During the debate on this bill the hour of adjournment arrived, and the orders of the day were called, Mr. Wood having the floor on amendment pending.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 11 A. M.

Bills on Third Reading—Supplement to an act to provide for the appointment of a special detective officer in any of the several counties of the Commonwealth. Passed finally.

Act to provide for the erection of watering troughs for the use of horses and cattle on the public roads of the Commonwealth. Passed finally.

Act regulating the incorporation and powers of telegraph companies. Amended and laid over, under the rule.

Act empowering cities of the cities of the Commonwealth to prescribe, by ordinance, the salaries to be paid out of the city treasury to the Mayor, Controller, Treasurer and all other officers and employees of the same, respectively, in lieu of all fines, fees and costs, the manner in which said salaries shall be paid, and directing all fees, fines and costs to be paid into the city treasury. Passed finally.

The House met at 4 P. M.

Mr. Gunster asked leave to introduce, from the Committee on Constitutional Reform, the Senate bill relative to salaries of county officers, the payment of fees received by them into the State and county treasury, in counties containing 150,000 inhabitants. It was reported with amendments to correspond with the House bill. It refers to Allegheny county and Philadelphia. It will be called up for consideration to-morrow. It leaves the salaries of Allegheny county officers the same as at present, with the following exceptions:

Register and Clerk of Orphans' Court, receiving now annually $2,500, increased to $4,000.

County Controller, receiving $3,000, increased to $4,000.

Assistant District Attorney, receiving $1,500, reduced to $1,200.

County Engineer, receiving $2,500, increased to $3,000.

County Solicitor, receiving $800, increased to $1,000.

County Jailor, $2,500.

County Detective, $1,000.

The bill will receive important changes when it comes up for consideration.

Act to regulate the publication of accounts and financial statements of School Boards. Passed finally.

Act authorizing appeals in cases of summary conviction and judgment in suits for a penalty, before a magistrate or court not of record. Postponed for the present.

Act to amend the act to confer upon Courts of Quarter Sessions of the Commonwealth power to annex the land or parts thereof of persons resident in one district to another district for school purposes, so as to allow the annexation of lands in a township or borough to a city containing less than 10,000 inhabitants. Passed finally.

Supplement to the act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, authorizing the formation and regulation of wharf companies and corporations for the encouragement and protection of trade and commerce, and it was postponed for the present.

Bills on Third Reading—Act to change the place for holding sessions of the Supreme Court for the Middle District, providing for fitting up and furnishing suitable rooms for the purpose. Passed.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to reconsider House bill No. 32, supplementary to the act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, authorizing the formation and regulation of wharf companies and corporations for the encouragement and protection of trade and commerce, and it was postponed for the present.

Mr. Huhn read in place an act for the payment of the soldiers of the National Guard of Pennsylvania called out to suppress riots in the counties of Schuylkill, Luzerne, &c.

Act making appropriation to provide for a display of the mineral resources of the State at the Centennial.

The House resumed consideration of

Bills on Third Reading—Act to authorize the appointment of chaplains for the Senate and House of Representatives for each regular and adjourned annual session, and providing for their compensation. Passed.

Act fixing the compensation of witnesses for the probate of wills. Passed.

Act to amend an act to consolidate, revise and amend the penal laws of the Commonwealth, approved the 31st of March, 1860. Passed.

Act in relation to appeals from the judgment of justices of the peace and aldermen of the Commonwealth, for the wages of manual labor. Passed.

Act to repeal the act to fix the mileage and change the time for meeting of the Directors of the Poor in Huntingdon county. Passed.

Act authorizing the use of unclaimed bodies of convicts and others for the promotion of the medical sciences. Amended and laid over.

Act to regulate the practice of dentistry and protect the people against empiricism in relation thereto in the State. Passed.

The House adjourned.

Democratic National Convention.

Meeting of National Committee at Washington.

Tuesday, June 27, Fixed as the Time.

St. Louis Selected as the Place.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 21, 1876.

Secretary Bristow and Solicitor Wilson.

There have been various statements made with reference to the early retirement of Secretary Bristow and of changes in some of the officials of prominence in the Department under him. The parties to whom these statements refer continue to deny that there is anything in them, so far as they are cognizant of the matter. It was remarked to-day, in an authoritative quarter and in reply to a question, that the correspondents of some papers say a great deal which never turns out as they predict. Neither Secretary Bristow nor Solicitor Wilson show any signs of anxiety as to their tenure of office, and if they do go out, from present indications it will be of their own volition. Both the Secretary and the Solicitor have endeavored to do their duty without fear or favor, and do not express any sentiments which would indicate an impression that it is not appreciated.

Transfer of the Pension Bureau.

The Committee on Pensions, in their report recommending the transfer of the Pension Bureau to the War Department, will insure a more efficient administration and will prevent the passage of the fraudulent pension claims which are pressed through by unscrupulous pension claim agents.

Dissatisfaction With the Centennial Bill.

There is talk in the House of the introduction of a bill supplementary to that appropriating funds in aid of the Centennial Exhibition. This bill will be designed to be explanatory of the provisions passed, as refers to the lien of the Government. Should such a bill be introduced, judging from the opinions of influential members, it will never pass.

No Democratic Financial Policy.

The Democratic Finance Caucus Committee had another long session to-day. Mr. Payne submitted a modified form of his bill, which provides that gold shall be hoarded at the rate of three per cent per annum, instead of five per cent., which would postpone resumption for ten years. The discussion was on his proposition. Mr. Holman was more refractory than ever, and was so intense in his views as to render himself rather unpleasant. He then notified the other gentlemen that he should go into the House and submit a resolution for the appointment of a select committee to report on the Specie Resumption act. In order to prevent this, Mr. Morrison prompted Speaker *pro tem* Cox. Mr. Holman therefore found it impossible to obtain recognition, although he called out, over and over, "Mr. Speaker," at the top of his voice. Mr. Cox recognized Mr. Morrison and allowed him to make a motion for an adjournment, which secure an adjournment. After the adjournment, Mr. Holman was very indignant and spoke in an excited strain to Mr. Morrison, declaring that he would not submit to be gagged in such a manner. All this shows that the chances for a harmonious agreement on a Democratic finance bill are not so good as has been hoped, although the hopeful ones do not yet give it up.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1876.

Democratic Inflationists on Deck.

A number of letters received here by influential members of Congress, on the financial question, lead to the impression that the inflationists are gaining ground in the country. Holman has made a square bolt on the Democratic Caucus Finance Committee. He is in no manner frame of mind over his treatment in the House yesterday, and openly declares that he will have nothing more to do with the committee. The Democrats in a body are now on the financial problem. Their committee met again to-day, but was as much at sea as ever.

Assistant Secretaryship of the Interior.

Third Assistant Postmaster General Barber has not yet received the appointment to succeed Mr. Cowen as Assistant Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary of the Interior, speaking of the vacancy, observed that in the choice of a successor he proposed to suit himself, but made no intimation as to the particular person at that time. Assistant Postmaster General Barber was a member of the Legislature of Michigan when Mr. Chandler was elected to the Senate a few years ago. Mr. Barber did efficient service in aid of the veteran Michigander, who and Mr. Barber appointed Reading Clerk of the House about two years ago, and favored his appointment to his present post. Should Mr. Barber receive the Assistant Secretaryship of the Interior, the highly popular Irishman William M. Ireland, of Philadelphia, will succeed him in his position in the Postoffice. Mr. Ireland is now Chief Clerk of the Third Assistant's office, a position which he has held for some years. During he absence of Mr. Barber, he has repeatedly performed the duties of Assistant Postmaster General efficiently and with perfect satisfaction to the Department.

Health of Speaker Kerr.

Speaker Kerr says that he has recovered his health sufficiently to resume the Chair to-morrow, the next day. The friends of the Speaker, however, are not as enthusiastic, and press a Southern tour, particularly during the trying month of March. The Speaker seems determined to persist in retaining the chair, and openly say that by doing so he will sacrifice his life.

Pittsburgh Prize Money.

The Committee on Claims have under consideration the payment of the full prize money due to the Pittsburgh steamers Horner, Dick Fulton, Mingo and Sampson, which participated in the flotilla engaged in the capture of Memphis, in 1862. The other steamers of the flotilla have received their full pay. Representative Hopkins will urge speedy action.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

Democrats Will Leave the Tariff Undisturbed.

The Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee say that they have enough to attend to in looking after the finances, and do not wish to assume any more responsibility, especially in taking up the Tariff bill, which now slumbers in the committee. On this subject, the Democratic party is as much divided as on the question of finances. It has been shown also, by the intimations of prominent Southern members, that the policy of protection is gaining a strong foothold there.

A Pittsburgh Candidate for Treasurer.

It is intimated that W. N. Riddle, Cashier of the Penn Bank, of Pittsburgh, will succeed Mr. New as Treasurer of the United States. Mr. Riddle is now in the city. The probability of his appointment is based upon the fact that some correspondence has been had with parties in Pittsburgh in reference to him as a not impropitious candidate for the place.

Speaker Kerr's Health Restored.

Speaker Kerr resumed the chair to-day. He says that he never felt better in his life and that he thinks he will be able to remain until the close of the session. As a boy, Mr. Kerr suffered from catarrah and has been a victim for years since. Recently, however, the disease attacked the bronchial organs and was also accompanied with great nervous derangement. Under proper treatment, however, the disease has been restored to its original seat. The rest and recreation, aided by the advise and treatment of his physician, have restored him to the average health of late years. Although his friends still urge a visit to the South during the coming month, Mr. Kerr now thinks that such a visit is unnecessary.

Resumption and Silver Payment.

The accumulation of silver and the current production have reached such a point that the resumption of silver payments, in the immediate future, is now a subject of earnest consideration at the Treasury Department. It was intimated to-day that the dollar would be ready for coinage practicable within thirty days. The silver now on hand is twelve millions, which, with the monthly coinage, is considered ample to inaugurate the work.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1876.

POSTAL CHANGES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The following postal changes have been ordered during the past week:

Postoffices established—Albert's, Luzerne county, Nicholas Hildebrand, postmaster; Bell's Landing, McKean county, William L. Hyde, postmaster; La Plume, Luzerne county, William P. Slocum, Postmaster; Nantmeal village, Chester county, David H. Loomis, postmaster.

Discontinued—Monticello, Armstrong county.

Postmasters appointed—John T. Wallace, Alum Rock, Clarion county; John K. Kendig, Lansdale, Montgomery county; Solomon W. Bachman, Lynville, Lehigh county; Thompson P. Wiley, Marion, Clearfield county; William H. Taylor, Reedsville, Mifflin county; Kate E. Cox, Mount Eagle, Centre county; John Fox, New Milport, Clearfield county.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The National Democratic Committee, prior to its adjournment Tuesday night, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the National Democratic Executive Committee be instructed to continue its headquarters at Washington, and take such steps as may be deemed expedient for the thorough organization of it in the several States, and that the Chairmen of the Central Committees in the respective States be requested to co-operate with it in effecting the same.

THE CALL.

The National Democratic Committee, to whom is delegated the power of fixing the time and place of holding the National Democratic Convention of 1876, have appointed Tuesday, the 27th of June next, at noon, as the time, and selected St. Louis as the place of holding such convention. Each State will be entitled to a representation equal to double the number of its Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and the Territory of Colorado, whose admission in July as a State will give it a vote in the next electoral college, is also invited to send delegates to the convention.

Democratic, Conservative and other citizens of the United States, irrespective of past political associations, desiring to co-operate with the Democratic party in its present efforts and objects, are cordially invited to join in sending delegates to the National Convention. Co-operation is desired from all persons who would change an administration that has suffered the public credit to become and remain inferior to other and less favored nations; has permitted commerce to be taken away by foreign powers; has settled trade by unjust, unequal and pernicious legislation; has imposed unusual taxation and rendered it most burthensome; has changed growing prosperity to widespread suffering and want; has oppressed the public service recklessly and defiantly, and shamelessly used the power that should have been swift to punish crime, to protect it. For these and other reasons, the National Democratic party deem public danger imminent, and, earnestly desirous of securing to our country the blessing of an economical, pure and free Government, cordially invite the co-operation of their fellow citizens in an effort to attain this object.

Democratic Recklessness—Prospect of a Suspension of Government Business—What the Republican Party has Done in the Way of Reform—A Democratic Committee Stark and Unsystematic in Its Representative—A Fine Specimen of Democratic Gentility—Hambleton, the Admirer of John Wilkes Booth—The Martyr to the Shocking Barbarism Seventh of the Month Becomes the Pet of the Democratic Chiefs—The Little Democrats versus the Big Ones—Speaker Kerr Denounced—The Death of Reverdy Johnson—The Departed Jurist's Voice and Judge Grier's Nap.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 13, 1876.

The Democratic Committee on Appropriations, notwithstanding their attempts to delude the people into the belief that they are making great efforts at retrenchment and reform, find that their reckless cutting down of salaries and other necessary expenditures of the Government will heap upon them a load of responsibility, which will do them more damage than they can overcome by political buncomb. It is apparent even to them that it is necessary to carry on the Government, and for that a certain amount of expenditure is required, and to fall below that would lead to a suspension of the administration of the Government. Should the appropriations be inadequate the President would be required to call an extra session, for without an appropriation by the legislative branch it is impossible for the Executive to run the machine. Ever since the business of the Government was started by the Republican party in both Houses of Congress has been engaged in the laudable work of retrenchment and reform, as well as in the public in every part of the country, about twenty-five years ago, and if the Republican party had maintained the power in the House, the present session would have witnessed a reduction of taxation to the same amount. That the Republican party is the party of real reform is fully substantiated by these facts.

A few days ago, when Mr. John Allison, Register of the Treasury, was before the Committee on Appropriations, he occasioned considerable surprise when he informed the committee that he had been employed one year to year; that in 1869 he had 259 persons employed in his bureau and now had but 208, a difference of fifty employees. This fact was a poser. He told them that he required his full force to do his work in time, and that, as they remarked, if they intended to increase the hours to eight, his force could do more than in six.

The polished manners and quick perceptions of the appointees about the House of representatives indicate a high and fluctuating Democratic ideas of decency. A few days ago Mr. Townsend, representing the West Chester district, Pennsylvania, a Democrat and a Republican and an active working member of the House, while viewing the party of ladies and gentlemen the work of architecture and art at the Capitol, stepped into one of the committee rooms and began to point out the frescoes which decorated the walls. No sooner had Mr. Townsend and his party fully entered the room than the clerk of the committee stepped up in a hasty manner, remarking, "What are you doing here, sir? This is a committee room and not to be entered, sir." Mr. Townsend remarked, "I am a member of the House of Representatives and also a member of one of the committees which meets in this room." This apology was received by the clerk with his explanation, remarked, "Well, sir, if you wish to remain here you must get out from on the Chairman." Mr. Townsend, preserving his equanimity, withdrew. The next day he ordered a stenographer to report the whole of the circumstance and stating that he would not enter the room on committee business if he could help it. Speaker Kerr is the only man to say that the clerk's resignation was required, and that he will now have an opportunity to ruminate upon his sins.

The appointment of James P. Hambleton, of Georgia, to the position of Chief Engineer of Ways and Means was a forcible instance of the material of which the Democratic party is made up. Hambleton was elected to the Confederate Congress from Georgia a few years ago. Mr. Barber did efficient service in aid of the veteran Michigander, who and Mr. Barber appointed Reading Clerk of the House about two years ago, and favored his appointment to his present post. Should Mr. Barber receive the Assistant Secretaryship of the Interior, the highly popular Irishman William M. Ireland, of Philadelphia, will succeed him in his position in the Postoffice. Mr. Ireland is now Chief Clerk of the Third Assistant's office, a position which he has held for some years. During he absence of Mr. Barber, he has repeatedly performed the duties of Assistant Postmaster General efficiently and with perfect satisfaction to the Department.

Health of Speaker Kerr.

Speaker Kerr says that he has recovered his health sufficiently to resume the Chair to-morrow, the next day. The friends of the Speaker, however, are not as enthusiastic, and press a Southern tour, particularly during the trying month of March. The Speaker seems determined to persist in retaining the chair, and openly say that by doing so he will sacrifice his life.

Pittsburgh Prize Money.

The Committee on Claims have under consideration the payment of the full prize money due to the Pittsburgh steamers Horner, Dick Fulton, Mingo and Sampson, which participated in the flotilla engaged in the capture of Memphis, in 1862. The other steamers of the flotilla have received their full pay. Representative Hopkins will urge speedy action.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

Democrats Will Leave the Tariff Undisturbed.

The Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee say that they have enough to attend to in looking after the finances, and do not wish to assume any more responsibility, especially in taking up the Tariff bill, which now slumbers in the committee. On this subject, the Democratic party is as much divided as on the question of finances. It has been shown also, by the intimations of prominent Southern members, that the policy of protection is gaining a strong foothold there.

A Pittsburgh Candidate for Treasurer.

It is intimated that W. N. Riddle, Cashier of the Penn Bank, of Pittsburgh, will succeed Mr. New as Treasurer of the United States. Mr. Riddle is now in the city. The probability of his appointment is based upon the fact that some correspondence has been had with parties in Pittsburgh in reference to him as a not impropitious candidate for the place.

Speaker Kerr's Health Restored.

Speaker Kerr resumed the chair to-day. He says that he never felt better in his life and that he thinks he will be able to remain until the close of the session. As a boy, Mr. Kerr suffered from catarrah and has been a victim for years since. Recently, however, the disease attacked the bronchial organs and was also accompanied with great nervous derangement. Under proper treatment, however, the disease has been restored to its original seat. The rest and recreation, aided by the advise and treatment of his physician, have restored him to the average health of late years. Although his friends still urge a visit to the South during the coming month, Mr. Kerr now thinks that such a visit is unnecessary.

Resumption and Silver Payment.

The accumulation of silver and the current production have reached such a point that the resumption of silver payments, in the immediate future, is now a subject of earnest consideration at the Treasury Department. It was intimated to-day that the dollar would be ready for coinage practicable within thirty days. The silver now on hand is twelve millions, which, with the monthly coinage, is considered ample to inaugurate the work.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1876.

POSTAL CHANGES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The following postal changes have been ordered during the past week:

Postoffices established—Albert's, Luzerne county, Nicholas Hildebrand, postmaster; Bell's Landing, McKean county, William L. Hyde, postmaster; La Plume, Luzerne county, William P. Slocum, Postmaster; Nantmeal village, Chester county, David H. Loomis, postmaster.

Discontinued—Monticello, Armstrong county.

Postmasters appointed—John T. Wallace, Alum Rock, Clarion county; John K. Kendig, Lansdale, Montgomery county; Solomon W. Bachman, Lynville, Lehigh county; Thompson P. Wiley, Marion, Clearfield county; William H. Taylor, Reedsville, Mifflin county; Kate E. Cox, Mount Eagle, Centre county; John Fox, New Milport, Clearfield county.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The National Democratic Committee, prior to its adjournment Tuesday night, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the National Democratic Executive Committee be instructed to continue its headquarters at Washington, and take such steps as may be deemed expedient for the thorough organization of it in the several States, and that the Chairmen of the Central Committees in the respective States be requested to co-operate with it in effecting the same.

THE CALL.

The National Democratic Committee, to whom is delegated the power of fixing the time and place of holding the National Democratic Convention of 1876, have appointed Tuesday, the 27th of June next, at noon, as the time, and selected St. Louis as the place of holding such convention. Each State will be entitled to a representation equal to double the number of its Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and the Territory of Colorado, whose admission in July as a State will give it a vote in the next electoral college, is also invited to send delegates to the convention.

Democratic, Conservative and other citizens of the United States, irrespective of past political associations, desiring to co-operate with the Democratic party in its present efforts and objects, are cordially invited to join in sending delegates to the National Convention. Co-operation is desired from all persons who would change an administration that has suffered the public credit to become and remain inferior to other and less favored nations; has permitted commerce to be taken away by foreign powers; has settled trade by unjust, unequal and pernicious legislation; has imposed unusual taxation and rendered it most burthensome; has changed growing prosperity to widespread suffering and want; has oppressed the public service recklessly and defiantly, and shamelessly used the power that should have been swift to punish crime, to protect it. For these and other reasons, the National Democratic party deem public danger imminent, and, earnestly desirous of securing to our country the blessing of an economical, pure and free Government, cordially invite the co-operation of their fellow citizens in an effort to attain this object.

WISCONSIN.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

Declaration of Principles and Cheerful Greeting to the Party at Large.

MADISON, February 22.—The Republican State Convention met here this morning. Every Senatorial and Assembly district in the State was represented. E. T. Brown, of Waupaca, was chosen President. The Committee on Resolutions presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:

The Republicans of Wisconsin, in State Convention assembled, in response to the call of the National Union Republican Committee for the Republicans of the several States of the Union to elect delegates to their National Convention, send fraternal greetings to Republicans in all parts of our beloved land, with cordial assurances to all patriotic citizens who honor the flag of our common country, as the emblem of liberty, equality and fraternity, of our earnest desire to see the Republic enter upon the second century of its prosperous career free from sectional strife or injustice of any name or nature, and that we will endeavor to promote a feeling of permanent harmony throughout the entire country and will maintain and support all measures, acts and laws, the enforcement of which shall secure to every citizen his constitutional rights, including the full and free exercise of the right of franchise, without intimidation or fraud.

We are in favor of vigorous efforts to prosecute and punish those who have been guilty of official dishonesty, and to detect and to bring to punishment all who have in any form conspired to defraud the Government of its just and legal revenues.

We believe in the unwritten law of the land which declares it unwise for a Chief Magistrate to hold his office beyond two terms, and we accept the declaration of President Grant, in harmony with this law, as but another claim to our veneration and gratitude.

We believe in national arbitration, in lieu of war, and we point to the scene of two nations, strong enough to be above passion, adjusting claims before this tribunal as among the proudest monuments of the Republic.

While endeavoring to reduce the national debt that was incurred in the presence of organized treason and armed rebellion within a political party which again aspires to the control of the Government, we are opposed to impairing the credit of the Nation by depreciating any of its obligations, and are in favor of sustaining in every way the national faith and financial honor.

We believe in honest money; that the currency of the Nation should, as soon as consistent with business interests and safety, be made equal to gold, until that time, should continue as a legal tender.

We hold, as of priceless value and of the greatest importance, that the common school system of the country, which, supported by just and equal taxation of property for the benefit of all and accessible to the children and citizens of every nationality, color, condition and creed, should be maintained absolutely free from sectarian control, that high and fluctuating political ideas of decency. A few days ago Mr. Townsend, representing the West Chester district, Pennsylvania, a Democrat and a Republican and an active working member of the House, while viewing the party of ladies and gentlemen the work of architecture and art at the Capitol, stepped into one of the committee rooms and began to point out the frescoes which decorated the walls. No sooner had Mr. Townsend and his party fully entered the room than the clerk of the committee stepped up in a hasty manner, remarking, "What are you doing here, sir? This is a committee room and not to be entered, sir." Mr. Townsend remarked, "I am a member of the House of Representatives and also a member of one of the committees which meets in this room." This apology was received by the clerk with his explanation, remarked, "Well, sir, if you wish to remain here you must get out from on the Chairman." Mr. Townsend, preserving his equanimity, withdrew. The next day he ordered a stenographer to report the whole of the circumstance and stating that he would not enter the room on committee business if he could help it. Speaker Kerr is the only man to say that the clerk's resignation was required, and that he will now have an opportunity to ruminate upon his sins.

The appointment of James P. Hambleton, of Georgia, to the position of Chief Engineer of Ways and Means was a forcible instance of the material of which the Democratic party is made up. Hambleton was elected to the Confederate Congress from Georgia a few years ago. Mr. Barber did efficient service in aid of the veteran Michigander, who and Mr. Barber appointed Reading Clerk of the House about two years ago, and favored his appointment to his present post. Should Mr. Barber receive the Assistant Secretaryship of the Interior, the highly popular Irishman William M. Ireland, of Philadelphia, will succeed him in his position in the Postoffice. Mr. Ireland is now Chief Clerk of the Third Assistant's office, a position which he has held for some years. During he absence of Mr. Barber, he has repeatedly performed the duties of Assistant Postmaster General efficiently and with perfect satisfaction to the Department.

Health of Speaker Kerr.

Speaker Kerr says that he has recovered his health sufficiently to resume the Chair to-morrow, the next day. The friends of the Speaker, however, are not as enthusiastic, and press a Southern tour, particularly during the trying month of March. The Speaker seems determined to persist in retaining the chair, and openly say that by doing so he will sacrifice his life.

Pittsburgh Prize Money.

The Committee on Claims have under consideration the payment of the full prize money due to the Pittsburgh steamers Horner, Dick Fulton, Mingo and Sampson, which participated in the flotilla engaged in the capture of Memphis, in 1862. The other steamers of the flotilla have received their full pay. Representative Hopkins will urge speedy action.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

Democrats Will Leave the Tariff Undisturbed.

The Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee say that they have enough to attend to in looking after the finances, and do not wish to assume any more responsibility, especially in taking up the Tariff bill, which now slumbers in the committee. On this subject, the Democratic party is as much divided as on the question of finances. It has been shown also, by the intimations of prominent Southern members, that the policy of protection is gaining a strong foothold there.

A Pittsburgh Candidate for Treasurer.

It is intimated that W. N. Riddle, Cashier of the Penn Bank, of Pittsburgh, will succeed Mr. New as Treasurer of the United States. Mr. Riddle is now in the city. The probability of his appointment is based upon the fact that some correspondence has been had with parties in Pittsburgh in reference to him as a not impropitious candidate for the place.

Speaker Kerr's Health Restored.

Speaker Kerr resumed the chair to-day. He says that he never felt better in his life and that he thinks he will be able to remain until the close of the session. As a boy, Mr. Kerr suffered from catarrah and has been a victim for years since. Recently, however, the disease attacked the bronchial organs and was also accompanied with great nervous derangement. Under proper treatment, however, the disease has been restored to its original seat. The rest and recreation, aided by the advise and treatment of his physician, have restored him to the average health of late years. Although his friends still urge a visit to the South during the coming month, Mr. Kerr now thinks that such a visit is unnecessary.

Resumption and Silver Payment.

The accumulation of silver and the current production have reached such a point that the resumption of silver payments, in the immediate future, is now a subject of earnest consideration at the Treasury Department. It was intimated to-day that the dollar would be ready for coinage practicable within thirty days. The silver now on hand is twelve millions, which, with the monthly coinage, is considered ample to inaugurate the work.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1876.

POSTAL CHANGES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The following postal changes have been ordered during the past week:

Postoffices established—Albert's, Luzerne county, Nicholas Hildebrand, postmaster; Bell's Landing, McKean county, William L. Hyde, postmaster; La Plume, Luzerne county, William P. Slocum, Postmaster; Nantmeal village, Chester county, David H. Loomis, postmaster.

Discontinued—Monticello, Armstrong county.

Postmasters appointed—John T. Wallace, Alum Rock, Clarion county; John K. Kendig, Lansdale, Montgomery county; Solomon W. Bachman, Lynville, Lehigh county; Thompson P. Wiley, Marion, Clearfield county; William H. Taylor, Reedsville, Mifflin county; Kate E. Cox, Mount Eagle, Centre county; John Fox, New Milport, Clearfield county.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 23, 1876.

CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The National Democratic Committee, prior to its adjournment Tuesday night, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the National Democratic Executive Committee be instructed to continue its headquarters at Washington, and take such steps as may be deemed expedient for the thorough organization of it in the several States, and that the Chairmen of the Central Committees in the respective States be requested to co-operate with it in effecting the same.

THE CALL.

The National Democratic Committee, to whom is delegated the power of fixing the time and place of holding the National Democratic Convention of 1876, have appointed Tuesday, the 27th of June next, at noon, as the time, and selected St. Louis as the place of holding such convention. Each State will be entitled to a representation equal to double the number of its Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and the Territory of Colorado, whose admission in July as a State will give it a vote in the

CONNECTICUT.

Greenback Convention at New Haven.

Principles of the Softs Plainly Declared.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., February 22.—About two hundred persons were present to-day, in this city, at the Mass Convention of Greenback Men. About one hundred from this city and vicinity handed in their names in favor of the movement. The convention was taken up by speeches, made chiefly by men of this city. Isaac Anderson, a business man of this city, was chosen Chairman. The Committee on Resolutions consisted of thirteen, with Henry Killam, carriage manufacturer, of this city, as Chairman; he is also Chairman of the New Haven Democratic delegation at the State Convention here to-morrow. After the presentation of a platform by the committee, the convention adjourned until afternoon.

The following are the resolutions:

First, We oppose the act fixing a time for the resumption of specie payments on, because we have any objections to our paper money being made worth its face in gold, but because that act, by creating distrust of the future, has paralyzed enterprise, thrown the productive forces of labor out of employment and postponed the day when it shall become possible to maintain our paper money at par with coin without creating widespread bankruptcy, which an attempt to enforce the resumption act will inevitably produce. Our paper money should be appreciated to par with coin, by rectifying the defects in our monetary system and by producing general prosperity, not by creating general prostration of business and robbing debtors to enrich creditors, under the hypocritical cry of honesty. We do not want resolutions of future action to amend the currency, especially when these resolutions assume the form of a standing threat against every new enterprise. We want immediate and practical measures which will create confidence in future and supply conditions under which time, industry and economy will place our country in a sound financial condition and make a paper dollar equal in value to a gold dollar in the earliest practical period. To fix an arbitrary time for specie payments, is as absurd as it would be to fix a day for a patient's recovery. In either case it is impossible to foretell the requisite time. We therefore ask for the immediate and unconditional repeal of the Resumption act, and demand that a dollar of the paper of the interests of the Nation for political purposes be branded as a crime against humanity.

Second, The Government should not disfavor its own promises, as it now does. In the language of Thaddeus Stevens, "the greenbacks were discredited before they were issued." The national debt should be made full legal tender for all public dues and for the purchase of Government bonds at par with gold coin.

Third, The relative values of the labor and prosperity of every citizen and the manner in which the national wealth shall be distributed, depend in a large degree upon the character and amount of the national currency. We should have a stable currency, as uniform as possible, both in its exchangeable value and its rate of interest. High and fluctuating rates of interest are detrimental to the interests and the prosperity of producers and the highest good of the nation. This evil can be prevented only by diminishing the amount of currency at seasons when there is little demand for it, and by increasing its volume when more currency is needed. The issue of money and the regulation of the value thereof is a matter of national

ernment, the court was adjourned. Colonel Dyer will close for the prosecution to-morrow, and it is now thought that the case will go to the jury to-morrow afternoon.

ST. LOUIS, February 23.—District Attorney Dyer commenced the closing argument in the Babcock case at half-past ten o'clock this morning, before a crowded court room. At the outset he referred to his conduct of the office since he assumed it some months ago and entered upon the discharge of his duties as the prosecutor of the whisky ring. He disclaimed the idea that he had been led into the prosecution of any innocent men, and told the jury that he appeared without malice or other intention than as the representative of the whole people, to prosecute great wrongs. This case he characterized as a most remarkable one, and the courses of the defence are still more remarkable. He accused Judge Porter of trying to drag the President into the case needlessly and grossly, and said: The President's deposition is before the jury; he has been examined, and I shall comment on his testimony as I would on that of any other witness; but when the gentleman, for a purpose of his own, represents the President as on trial, I don't intend that the red flag which he has thus flaunted in my face, shall be followed to battle. As well might it have said the President was on trial when John McDonald was being tried, or as well could be these conspiracies which were before the court. At some length Colonel Dyer attempted to show that this point was raised by the defense to influence the Republicans on the jury, and then continued: I don't believe that the manliness of the gentleman shall put me in the attitude of assailing the Administration. I intend to bring this defendant from behind the back of the President, where they have tried to place him, and I intend that he shall stand on his own merit in this case, and that they shall not wring a verdict from the jury by pretending that the President is on trial. When, or by whom of the prosecution, has the President been assailed? Colonel Dyer then

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1876.

THE foreign exports of Philadelphia, last week, amounted to $936,559.

THE foreign exports of Boston last week amounted to $806,627, against $483,558 for the corresponding week last year.

THE imports of Philadelphia, last month, amounted to $1,803,927, an increase of $819,651 over the corresponding month last year. Of this amount $1,282,301 was in American vessels, and $521,623 in foreign bottoms.

UPON the whole we are glad that the present Congress is Democratic. No one had previously suspected the existence of such an enormous element of imbecility in that party. The people won't be gulled a second time.

THE exports of domestic produce and miscellaneous goods from New York for the week ending on Wednesday were $3,440,295, against $3,952,584 for the corresponding week in 1875, and $4,345,950 in 1874. The total exports of produce since January 1, this year, were $32,939,232, against $30,758,635 for the corresponding period in 1875, and $37,019,358 in 1874.

THE Superintendent of the Washington police has ordered an advance along the whole line on the "tramps." In his instructions he states that that city has become an elysium for this class of pilgrims. The execution of the order will banish a good many adherents of the "Lost Cause," who have been prowling around the Capitol since the beginning of the session of Congress, picking up the straw crumbs that fell from the Confederate table.

"Good for Dockeray. He won't lecture, but wants $100,000 from the Spanish Government. Hope he'll get it, too."—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

So do we, since in that event he may possibly feel disposed to pay to the Government the amount of his defalcation as an internal revenue officer in Florida, and to refund the $6,514 which he borrowed without security from the Freedmen's Bank, not a farthing of which has ever been paid.

THE valuation of the taxable property of Tennessee will not, it is said, this year exceed $270,000,000, which is a decrease since 1873 of nearly $40,000,000. The Nashville *American* asserts that if the next Legislature was to treble the rate of taxation 'and apply it to the year 1877, the list of January, 1878, would find a deficit in the treasury of more than $1,500,000. The same paper suggests that the debt be "scaled," which is another term for repudiation. The financial administration of Tennessee has for several years past been in the hands of the "reform" Democracy.

THE horizon of the Springfield *Republican* is steadily widening. Speaking of the recent speech of Senator BRUCE in secret session, and of the colored people of the South, the Washington correspondent of that paper, who is in thorough accord with the political views of its editor, says:

> The Democratic party has no intention of saving the race from destruction. They are really to lose most of their legal rights, just as they have already done in Georgia and Mississippi. Nothing but the success of the Republican ticket next fall, can save the race from being trodden under foot by such miscreants as Toombs and Hill."

THE Supreme Court of Illinois has just rendered a decision on the long disputed question of the electoral rights of students attending college from distant parts of the State, and from other States, to the effect that those students who pay no taxes on their property, and take no part in the affairs of the town, and with no intention of remaining in town after their college course is finished, are not voters; but, on the other hand, those who are entirely free from paternal control, and who regard the town as their home, and have no other place to retire to in case of sickness or domestic affliction, are entitled to the exercise of the electoral franchise.

THE prosaic critics are very much disturbed over EMERSON'S last poem, "Boston," in the *Atlantic Monthly*. They do not seem to know that three or four good lines will alone preserve a poem faulty in some respects, as this is, and that the smoothest and most taking verses are the very ones that oblivion quickest buries. Of the American poets that have flourished in our day, how many will survive a century or even a decade, except a verse or a line? and none of them all can furnish as many lines incapable of being forgotten as EMERSON has written, some of which will be found in "Boston." He is not only a poetic-minded philosopher: he is a true bard.

CHARLES NORDHOFF, who generally jumps at conclusions in the exact degree in which he fails to understand facts, in a recent article on the Southeastern coasts of Massachusetts relates, as a remarkable incident, how the British Admiral Sir ISAAC COFFIN, on visiting Nantucket, found that a great part of the inhabitants were his remote relatives, and, as a mark of his good will, founded a free school for their benefit. The officer in question was himself of the New England branch of the COFFINS, a "Nantucketer" born and bred. He entered the British navy before the Revolution, and thus became permanently separated from his native island, but years afterward gave the beforementioned proof that he had not forgotten it.

"Two months and a half have gone, and yet the Democratic House of Representatives cannot point to one single act accomplished that will in any way benefit the country."—*Washington Republican.*

O, come now; don't be so sweeping in your statements. Haven't they stopped building a hospital at West Point; taken about three-fourths of a daily ration each from three hundred cadets; reduced the salaries of half a dozen professors, more or less, in that institution, and abolished its military band; adopted twine in the Post-office Department of the Capitol instead of red tape, and thereby saved a little, and introduced a tariff bill so wild and crude in its proposed changes as to excite general apprehension? What more do you want, pray? But some folks are never satisfied.

THE exposure of JAY GOULD'S connection with the New York *Tribune* for stock-jobbing purposes appears to have thwarted his schemes. It is now said that he is exceedingly anxious to close out his investment and get his money back. So long as this relation remained a secret, the disclosures of that paper regarding Panama Railroad or any other stock had some effect on Wall street, but it has now come to be so generally accepted that its opinions are coincident with the schemes and wishes of GOULD that these exposures, no matter how true in themselves, fall still-born on the street, and exert no influence whatever, except to affect the *Tribune* unfavorably. His retirement will not improbably embrace that of the present editor-in-chief, also.

THE Supreme Court of this State has just decided, on appeal from the lower court of Northumberland county, that orders drawn by the president of a board of school directors upon the treasurer of the school district, under the school law, are not negotiable bills or orders, but are warrants for the payment of money to the persons to whom they are issued, to be disbursed by the Treasurer under the authority of the law. They therefore do not authorize a subsequent holder to maintain suit in his name upon a promissory note, bill or order. They do not possess the ordinary properties of a mere contract, but are a statutory means of drawing the public money out of the hands of the legal custodian into the funds of the district. This decision is of general interest.

CONGRESSMAN JENKS, of the Twenty-fifth district of this State, is Chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions. He has just covered himself with Confederate glory by discharging the committee clerk, a Union soldier, who was badly wounded in the war, and injured for life. The ousted official was continued as clerk of the committee at the beginning of the session because of his thorough knowledge of the business which would come before the committee. Having now given the Chairman sufficient instruction to enable him to attend properly to the committee's affairs, he is dismissed to make room for a member of the Confederate Democratic combination. Mr. JENKS' constituents will no likely to bear this matter in mind when he asks for a continuance of their suffrages.

A RAILROAD MAN as a farmer's candidate is a spectacle for gods and farmers, especially the latter. Yet the Illinois Granger Convention the other day nominated as their candidate for Governor a man who has not only been a "monopolist" all his life, but who is also a railroad man, being President of the Chicago, Millington and Western narrow gauge road, whose officers are running round the country, asking towns to subscribe money to build their road. Evidently the convention didn't know anything about his railroad connections or he would not have been nominated. His friends were very careful to say nothing on the subject, and now the farmers are invited to swallow candidate, narrow gauge railroad and all. It makes no difference, however. The next Governor of Illinois will be a staunch Republican.

SOLVED.

The question of the consumption of smoke in large cities has of late years assumed more than ordinary importance, and in the great manufacturing centers it is daily more and more imperatively pressing for solution. It has not been found at all impossible, or even difficult, to contrive means to consume smoke, but the trouble has been until lately to devise a way by which extra expense may be avoided. It has been found that all the methods invented up to a late date have entailed considerable additional cost, and this is what the manufacturer and general consumer of steam by no means look kindly upon. Another element of complication in the question is the largely increased use of soft coal of late years. While anthracite alone was consumed there was much less complaint of annoyance than since the comparatively small cost of soft coal has brought those varieties into use. Since their consumption has become common the dark, rolling clouds that rise from the tall chimneys and settle like a Democratic pall over everything, have grown into such an obtrusive nuisance, that every effort has been made to find a remedy. It has long been known that the principal requisites for the complete combustion of bituminous coal were, sufficient supply of air to the coal, and a sufficient degree of heat to cause the oxygen of the air and the bituminous, or smoke-yielding, parts of the coal to combine, which degree of heat should be had in any furnace devised for the purpose. An Illinois mechanic, according to an elaborate report which we find in the Chicago *Tribune* of Saturday, has, after a prolonged series of experiments, devised a plan which secures these *desiderata* in perfection. The *Tribune* illustrates the system and its operations with numerous diagrams and descriptions which we have not space to reproduce. It appears, however, that the patentees of the apparatus recently made propositions to a Chicago manufacturer, in which they offered to test the invention on the boilers, and, if they should show an increase of ten per cent. in results, then the firm were to have the apparatus put in under all their boilers. In order to get a fair test, a certain boiler was first run for a week, every gallon of water used being measured by a meter and every pound of coal burned carefully noted. At the end of the period specified it was found that each pound of coal turned 7.74 pounds of water into steam. At the end of the first trial the firm put their improvement under the boiler, the performance of which had been noted, and the weighing of coal and measuring of water were again undertaken for a week or so. At the end of the time the results as shown were that the boiler with improvements turned 9.15 pounds of water into steam for each pound of coal consumed. This result was something of a surprise, showing, as it did, an increase of 1.41 pounds of water to each pound of coal, or over eighteen per cent. gained by the adoption of the improvement. At two of the largest hotels in that city the application of the system to the boilers has, after a test continued through two months, resulted in a saving of between twenty-three and twenty-four per cent. in the amount of coal used. The improvement has also been applied to the city water works, under the sanction of the Board of Public Improvement, the patentees entering into bonds to furnish all the fuel needed at a saving to the city of $25,000 for each year, figuring on the basis of the last year's service as reported by the engineer in charge. The first series of tests with soft coal exclusively are now in progress, or, rather, the fuel used at present is soft coal in place of anthracite, and the results, as stated by the *Tribune*, are noteworthy. We quote:

> The Engineer's report for the year 1874-75 shows that during that year an average of 38,000,000 gallons was pumped each day, and that 92,000 pounds of hard coal was used each day on an average. Both these items are given in round numbers. For years, therefore, that 410 gallons of water were pumped for each pound of coal burned. Counting the coal at eight dollars per ton, a simple calculation shows that each million gallons cost nine dollars and seventy-six cents to pump. To compare this with the results under the improved system the figures for the 4th to the 12th of this month are taken. During these eight days an average of 85,000 pounds of soft coal was used, and with it forty million gallons of water were pumped. Dividing, it is found that each pound of soft coal raised 479 gallons of water, and therefore (putting the price of soft coal at $5.50 a ton) that each million gallons of water cost $5 73 to raise. The difference between the system is $4 03 for each million gallons, and the apparent saving to the city on the 13,563,000,000 gallons pumped each year would be $56,029. But it may be urged that it would be unfair to take a whole year in comparison with a few days, and it will then be fair to look at the Engineer's report of work done in February of last year. It is found that during that month 80,000,000 gallons a day was pumped with an average consumption of 96,000 pounds of hard coal. This would show 421 gallons of water raised for each pound of coal burned, and would fix the cost of raising each million gallons at $9 49. Comparing these figures with the soft coal results above noted it is seen that $3.76 is saved by the use of the improvement and soft coal. This would show a yearly saving of $52,275. There is still another way of looking at the difference which should be pursued in order to show fairness. November last showed more economical results with hard coal than any other month reported on. During that time the water works pumped 38,000,000 gallons a day with 85,000 pounds of coal, or 403 gallons for each pound. This would show the cost of each million gallons to be $8 64. Comparing this with the result of the tests with the new methods, it will be seen that the soft coal is still lower by $2 91 on each million gallons pumped. Multiplying this by the number of million gallons used each year, and it appears that there will still be a saving of $40,457 every year by the adoption of the smoke burning apparatus, to say nothing of the great benefit to the city from the absence of smoke.

Of course the economical effect of the system is the first and most important one. That apparatus is most adapted to the engine owner's use which gives him the most vaporized water for the same sum of money, and these figures would really seem to show that a simple and easy method of consuming coal throughly, and thereby doing away with smoke, while saving money at the same time, has at length been discovered.

THE BIBLE QUESTION IN A NEW LIGHT.

A few days ago one of the faculty of the Chicago Law College, in a class lecture on the "Ordinance of 1787," made a novel point in the discussion of the educational question and the use of the Bible in the public schools, which, as reported in the Chicago *Tribune*, seems to be of considerable importance, at least as far as respects the Northwestern States. The lecturer first pointed out that the Ordinance of 1787 "for the government of the territory of the United States northwest of the River Ohio," was adopted by the Congress of the Confederation in July, while the present Constitution of the United States was not adopted until September. The ordinance therefore antedates the Federal Constitution by two months. It provides that "Religion, morality and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." This is one of the provisions which the ordinance declares "shall be considered as articles of compact between the original States and the people and States in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable unless by common consent." This, therefore, seems to be a compact which absolutely, according to its terms, requires the consent of all the original thirteen States and of each of the Northwestern States, and of all the people in each of the Northwestern States to repeal. At least no language that could have been adopted could have gone further in clinching it as utterly irrepealable. The lecturer argued that no amendment of the Federal Constitution, or of any State Constitution, will touch it, the acceptance by both parties, the United States and the State of Virginia, of the Ordinance of 1787 as an irrevocable compact being one of the conditions on which Virginia ceded the territory to the United States, and on which the United States permitted a State Government to be organized. By the Illinois State Constitution the ordinance is made part of that instrument, but unlike most features in the Constitution, which are inserted by choice and may be changed, this is inserted by compact and could not be omitted. The religion meant was, according to the lecturer's interpretation of the fixed rules of legal construction, the Protestant form of Christianity, including the King JAMES version of the Scriptures, being that broad and tolerant form of Christianity, without distinction of sect or creed, which the courts and jurists hold to be a part of the common law. We quote:

> "It has been so interpreted by Judge Story in the celebrated Girard College case and by the bench generally wherever the case had arisen. All this amounted to a compact that the State Governments northwest of the Ohio should forever encourage Orthodox Protestant Christianity as essential to the well-being of the State and people, and as one of the objects for which schools and the means of education were to be provided. The use of the King James version of the Bible in the public schools, therefore, to be read without note or comment, as a religious and educational exercise, was not an innovation or usurpation effected by the cunning or ambition of any sect or party, but was the spontaneous and instinctive act of the people as a whole, in carrying out the compact contained in the Ordinance of 1787, that schools should forever encourage, not merely knowledge, nor even morality, but religion, as our fathers used the word, meaning Protestant and Puritan Christianity, the historical faith of that date."

If this view of the matter be the correct one, it follows that the use of the Bible in the public schools, the plain King JAMES version is, by the Ordinance of 1787, required as a thing necessary to good government, and is a usage which cannot be repealed without a violation of the Constitution, until such repeal shall be sanctioned by all the original thirteen States, and by all the people of the several States formed out of the territory embraced in that remarkable ordinance.

SOME of our Western States would seem to be sadly in need of legislators with judgment enough to know the meaning and import of the measures they originate and make part of the statute law. They see immediate effects only, entirely overlooking remote ones, thus proving themselves lacking in the very first element of statesmanship. Wisconsin and Iowa seem to be particularly unfortunate in this respect. Their statesmen can discover the expediency or inexpediency of a measure only by experimenting with it. If, after a couple of years, it comes within an ace of ruining some important branch of home industry, or hampers the development of the States themselves in a manner which no one can fail to see, or drives millions of capital away from, or keeps millions from coming into the State, they, by a laborious process of reasoning from these data, come to the conclusion that the law is, after all, not calculated to promote the greater good of the greater number. They call for a repeal, and, if not, the first thing that fire burns until they have blistered their fingers in the flame. Thus they acted in the case of the Granger railroad laws. The intended and immediate effect of these laws was very desirable, cheap transportation; and this was the only effect taken into consideration. Their remote effects, the bankruptcy of every railroad in those States, the prevention of the construction of another mile of railway, and the destruction of rapid transportation, or, if not the absolute destruction of existing lines, poor cars at a slower rate, were apparently never thought of. Wisconsin, however, has at length learned from sharp experience that its Potter law was a mistake, and repealed the hurtful statute. Iowa now proposes to follow suit by getting rid of the cast-iron railroad tariff law enacted some two years ago, and the question is now before the Legislature of that State. Official statistics show that $1,886,404 has been lost by the Iowa farmers, under the law, as applied to the leading trunk lines running through the State, since the passage of the act. The law reduces rates on freight taken up and put down within the State, but it is claimed that this is not a drop in the bucket compared with shipments without the State, and that the gain in that direction is hardly any compensation for the loss on through traffic. The farmers themselves now say that they cannot live under the law. They must have some relief, or stop raising cattle and grain. If people's fore-light were as good as their hind sight, how many mistakes would be avoided.

THE present unprecedentedly low price of silver is attracting attention on all sides, at home and abroad. The London *Economist* of the 5th instant has a leading editorial devoted to showing the effect of this low price on British trade with India. In consequence of the depreciation of silver "the rate of exchange is now 1s. 9¼d. per rupee (or less), the lowest, or almost the lowest, ever known. And this operates as a direct discouragement to ship goods to India. These goods are paid for in rupees, and when the merchant wants to bring home those rupees to England he finds that they do not go so far as they used to do. He has to pay much more for every £1,000 bill on England, and this extra cost destroys or diminishes his profit." Not only is the shipment of goods to India discouraged, but exports from India are encouraged. The *Economist* calculates that in course of time so large a debt to India will be created by this change in trade as to take from the European markets the silver which now burdens them. The *Atlas-California* of the 12th instant, in giving the figures of the export of silver since 1871, including the amount received from Mexico and sent abroad, says the supposed surplus of silver does not really exist, but only in the imagination of those wishing to bear the silver market, or who may believe the Munchausen stories of the Comstock yield for the next few years. The following are the amounts stated:

	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Bars, Coin, Trade	$ 8,663,944 7,957,500	7,912,959 150,000	8,457,739 106,589	9,402,719 8,425	8,735,714 140,919
			389,224	4,018,577	4,020,849
Mex.,	1,870,184	1,425,385	2,778,065	2,253,341	1,822,978
Total,	18,521,108	9,488,272	12,732,625	15,828,062	16,910,470

The same paper contains interesting interviews with leading banks and experts called forth by the report that Dr. LINDEMAN had recommended the repeal of the legal tender provision affecting trade dollars. All the bankers indorse this recommendation. Ex-Governor Low, formerly Minister to China, says that Senator JONES' proposition to make silver a legal tender to all amounts would drive all the gold out of the United States.

KENTUCKY has just struck a bonanza in the shape of the discovery of a vast bed of marl underlying an area of some twelve thousand square miles, mainly that part of the State where it appears to be most needed, the tobacco-growing counties. The State Geologist's opinion of the value of the discovery is shown by his characterizing it as perhaps "the most important ever made by a geological survey." This marl bed is described as being of a thickness varying from twelve to thirty feet, very rich in potash, soda and phosphorus, so exposed and easily dug that at several points it can be loaded into wagons or cars at about twenty-five cents per ton, accessible by open digging over an area of about three thousand square miles, and by deeper mining under a still larger area over twelve thousand miles. This is a discovery of very great importance to the tobacco regions of that State, as the marl will furnish the very elements withdrawn from the soil by those crops which carry away so much of its fertility. Thousands of acres, which have been so exhausted that they will no longer make tobacco at all, or even respectable crops of anything else, can, the State Geologist says, by proper use of this fertilizer, be restored to their pristine productiveness. And not that State alone, but the agriculture of the whole Ohio Valley will be benefited by this discovery, the supply being practically inexhaustible. The Louisville *Commercial* says it is worth a good deal more to Kentucky than the discovery of a gold mine in her borders would have been. According to the State Auditor's report, the tobacco crop of Kentucky fell off last year over 122,000,000 pounds, but this discovery will give the means of restoring the productiveness of the impoverished soil at a very low cost. A special report on the subject will be made within a few weeks.

THE Democratic press is constantly harping on the "hard times," and insisting that they are principally attributable to the past ascendancy of the Republican party; whereas, in reality, it is the Democratic party that is largely responsible for the general depression of industry and enterprise. Following the great tidal wave panic of 1873, it will be remembered there came a partial revival of trade and business confidence, and a gradual return toward the ancient landmarks of financial safety and stability. Only a few months, however, was this financial recuperation permitted to continue, when a new danger appeared and frightened timid capital back into the vaults of the owners. This was the election of a Confederate Democratic majority in our National House of Representatives. When that act was consummated, the manufacturer, the banker and the capitalist opened their eyes, looked about them, and commenced taking in sail for the coming storm. And they are still setting their houses in order, determined to prepare for the worst, if the worst should come, and to run no risks. This is one of the main reasons why the country is still covered with a cloud of doubt and apprehension; and it will only be effectually dispelled by the decisive defeat of the reactionary Democratic combination at the next general election. A correspondent of the Indianapolis *Journal* sums up the whole matter when he says: "The repeal of the Resumption act would be a great aid, but a positive assurance now of a Republican success next autumn would be a greater financial relief to the country at large than any possible legislation by Congress." Let the people think of it.

THE current number of the *Congregationalist Quarterly* contains an elaborate statistical statement of the numerical strength of the Congregational denomination in this country, which, in view of the fact that there is a National Congregational Advisory Council now in session in Brooklyn, possesses a certain general interest. The whole number of churches is 3,433, of which 917 have settled and 1,630 acting pastors, and 891 are without pastors. The total number of church members is 338,313. The additions last year were 29,645, while the whole number of removals was 16,805, showing a net gain of 12,840 members. The whole number of ministers in the pastoral work was 2,307, and there were 993 not in the pastoral work, besides 258 licentiates. The whole number in Sabbath schools was 401,858. Charitable contributions to the amount of $1,241,014 39 were reported by 2,418 churches; 1,020 churches, less than half the States making returns, reporting their home expenditures to be $1,388,446 74. Although the increase in the number of churches was less than usual, the increase in membership was greater than in either of the preceding five years. The number of additions by profession was greater than either of the preceding seven years. The increase of benevolent contributions was $52,876 60. The value of these statistics may be inferred from the fact that they give the name of every church of the denomination in the country, arranged by States; the name and date of ordination, and the date of settlement of every pastor, with various other interesting facts.

WE COMMEND to the consideration of the *Post*, which is just now devoured with a feverish fear that General BABCOCK'S trial will result in a verdict of "not guilty," the following striking illustration of the admirable manner in which justice is meted out to Democratic offenders through the medium of Democratic juries, down South. In the United States Court of Louisiana, last Thursday, the jury before whom was tried one DUDENHEFFER, charged with the embezzlement of a large amount of money from the German National Bank of New Orleans, of which he was cashier, brought in a verdict of not guilty. The Court the next day addressed the jury as follows:

> "The verdict rendered by you yesterday in the case of the United States vs. Ferdinand Dudenheffer was so extraordinary that I cannot let it pass unnoticed. In all my experience in courts of justice, running over a period of over twenty years, I have never known a verdict rendered so utterly in defiance of the law and the evidence. I am satisfied that it is impossible to administer the law in any criminal practice even-handed with a jury capable of rendering such a verdict. I therefore order that you be discharged from any further attendance in this court."

It appears that this DUDENHEFFER has been for years a prominent Democratic politician. The Government prosecutors are so disgusted with attempting to obtain convictions of criminals who have any prominence in the Democratic party from juries in New Orleans, that it is expected a change of venue will be asked by the District Attorney in the whisky and other cases where the Government is concerned.

BISHOP MCQUAID, the Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Rochester, New York, delivered an address in Boston a few days ago on "The Public School question as understood by an American citizen," the gist of which is contained in the following arraignment, couched in his own words, of the common school system of this country:

> The public school system, as advocated by many to be imposed on all the citizens of this Republic, is nothing else, in my judgment, than a huge engine to destroy religion, individual liberty and enterprise, and parental rights. It is a monopoly on the part of the State, usurping to itself the entire control of the teacher's business, driving out competition, herding the children together in large numbers, working all alike as so many bits of machinery, instead of the blessed system of home, family and neighborhood schools, acting on the children according to individual character, by teachers more immediately under the control of parents.
>
> There is certainly no possibility of mistaking the meaning of this frank statement. He desires it to be known and understood of all men that he is an uncompromising enemy of free schools. He is also an authoritative exponent of the views of the Catholic hierarchy on this question. It is one of the cardinal dogmas of his Church that it is the same everywhere, at all times and in all countries, with variableness or shadow of turning. The logical inference is, therefore, that that Church would destroy our public school system, root and branch, if it only had the power. What do the friends of free education think of this?

THE advance guard of Western merchants now in New York speak confidently of a good spring trade for staple goods in that section, as the farmers have been receiving fair prices for their products, and wheat and corn are being forwarded to the East in good quantities. Nothing, we think, is more certain than that the consumption of the country generally is steadily gaining on the production, and that the period cannot be very remote when the legal relation between the two must be reversed. The United States *Economist*, while admitting that business in nearly all departments is as yet very slack, calls for courage and steadiness, and says:

> "If those whose duty and care it is to see that proper restraints are exercised in the liberty of credits; that an ordinary show of backbone is exhibited in caring for supplies and stocks; that no unusual terms or conditions of sale are granted; in short, if sellers will demonstrate their independence in being moved by the actions of others, there is every reason to believe that a fair to usual amount of sales will be shown as the result of the spring season, with the profits of an ordinary character, if but one-half the scrutiny is exercised that we hear spoken of on all sides. There is no justification for the statement of a decreased consumption, the lethargy of the market having already found new outlets; hence, with low prices and some considerable reduction of supplies, if those who are in direction will only prove patient and steady, the way is sure, and in time will be open for an increase on the legitimate consumption of former years."

Foreign Commerce of the United States.

The Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce has made a compilation showing the foreign commerce of the port of New York as compared with the aggregate of all other ports of the United States for the year ending June 30, 1875. The following is a recapitulation:

Foreign Merchandise.	Port of New York.	Aggregate of all other ports of the U.S.	Total United States.
Imported	$468,637,580	$185,268,577	$653,906,158
Exported	15,502,066	6,931,568	22,433,624
Consumed and on hand	$453,135,524	$178,337,009	$631,472,529
Domestic Produce.			
Exported	$329,201,913	$329,489,378	$658,691,291
Excess of foreign imports over domestic exports	$ 39,455,667		
Excess of domestic exports over foreign imports		$144,220,835	$104,785,138

Total foreign commerce of the port of New York	$713,341,549
Total foreign commerce of all other ports of the United States	321,689,519
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1874-75	1,035,031,068
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1873-74	1,324,104,706
Decrease during the year 1874-75	$ 89,073,638
Total foreign commerce of the United States 1870-71	$1,235,031,068
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1872-74	1,324,104,706
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1871-72	$1,340,899,221
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1870-71	1,212,328,233
Total foreign commerce of the United States, 1869-70	1,132,472,238
	901,898,889

THE reigning Sovereign of Great Britain is always styled "Defender of the Faith;" but, judging from appearances, the present incumbent of the throne may before long be at a loss to understand what particular kind of "faith" it is of which she is the special bulwark. The ecclesiastic machinery of the Established Church of that country recently received a severe blow by the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council that the sacraments of the church cannot be refused to a man who does not believe in the personality of the devil. This was almost immediately followed by a decision that Nonconformist ministers have an equal right with Episcopalian clergymen to assume the prefix of "reverend," and now comes the same court and passes a sweeping condemnation on the use of lighted candles on the communion table; the administration of the communion to a limited party; the mixing of water with wine; the use of wafer bread; the westward position of the minister at the table, with his back to the people; the procession of acolytes with a cross; the wearing of the chasuble and alb, and the decoration of the church with symbols borrowed from the Roman Catholic style. It begins to look somewhat as though the enfranchising spirit of spiritual as of civil freedom were there abroad in the air.

> "Our little systems have their day;
> They have their battle-hatchets stirred,
> Flashed bare beneath the sky;
> We felt the vowels of Honor prick
> As keenly as did he
> Who sowed his savage epoch thick
> With perfect chivalry.
>
> Cour-de-leons on every field,
> Where saints in every home,
> Through whose dear helping stood revealed
> The joy of martyrdom—
> Compassed by whose assuring loves,
> Our comrades dared and died
> As blithely as a bridegroom moves
> To meet his glowing bride.
>
> Though tears be salt, and wormwood yet
> Is bitter to the taste,
> God's heart is tender, and doth let
> No sorrow fall nor waste.
> O, mothers of our Gracchi when
> You gave your jewels up,
> A continent of hopeless men
> Grew rich in boundless hope.
>
> Renown stands mute beside the graves
> With which the land is scarred;
> Unheralded our splendid braves
> Went forth unto the Lord;
> No poet hoards their humble names
> In his immortal scrolls,
> But not the less the darkness flames
> With their illumined souls.
>
> Beneath the outward havoc, they
> The inward mercy saw;
> High intuitions of duty lay
> On them as strong as law:
> Beyond the bloody horizon
> They marked the soft rains stored,
> And heard Heaven's tranquil voices run
> When Earth's fierce cannon roared.
>
> O, little mounds that cost so much!
> We compass what you teach;
> And our worst grossness feels the touch
> Of your uplifting speech.
> You thrill us with the thoughts that flow
> In Eucharistic wine—
> And by our Holy Dead we know
> That Life is still Divine.
>
> RICHARD REALF.

THE St. Louis *Republican*, in enumerating the difficulties with which the fire-eating Democrats of the South are surrounding the hopes of the Northern wing of the party, as respect the approaching Presidential contest, quotes the following passage from a late Washington letter to the New York *Tribune*:

> "I was sorely tempted to ask you a question while you were speaking to-day, said a Northern Democrat to a Southerner in Congress. When the question was stated the Southern member remonstrated: 'But you would not have drawn me into such an embarrassing position!' 'Of course I would not,' was the reply, 'and the only reason is that we Northern Democrats have more consideration for you than you have for us. I could not run in my district except by denouncing such sentiments as you have uttered to-day, and whatever your own people may think of them, you have no right to cripple me by giving utterance to them in this place.'"

The *Republican* thinks that if every Democrat living South of the Potomac could read this, and summon sufficient practical sense to profit by it, "a grand hope might spring up." In other words, that paper advocates the adoption of a policy of evasion and duplicity for the accomplishment of party ends. Such hypocritic makeshifts will not, however, avail. The party is in the same desperate strait as MACBETH when he exclaimed that he had:

> "Stepped in so far that, should I wade no more,
> Returning were as tedious as go o'er."

THERE is some talk of changing the route of the proposed new coal road between Boston and to the anthracite regions of this State, from Pittston, which is situated near the extreme northern basin of the anthracite basin, to the Lehigh basin, directly through the heart of the middle coal fields. The Lehigh and Eastern Railway Company have already gone their road under way. They will reach the Hudson river at Poughkeepsie from the Black Creek region, or middle coal field, by the construction of 150 miles; and this latter road will connect with existing roads already in operation leading to this city, or the Baltimore and Ohio road, crossing all the leading roads to Philadelphia and New York, thus making connection with the network of all the existing improvements in this State. As to the feasibility of the route, it is claimed that there will be no grade against the coal trade, for a distance of more than half, that will exceed thirty-feet per mile; and the Lehigh and Eastern Railroad Company have a subscription sufficient to grade three-fourths of their road. The distinct purpose, however, is to open a new and nearer route from our coal fields to the East, either in one direction or another.

THE effect of the existing laws in the State of New York for assessing personal property is proving so disastrous to the owners of real estate that large numbers of the best citizens of the State are removing to our own State, New Jersey and Connecticut, in order to avoid the operation of the laws. The effects of these removals are threefold; they cut off from the city and State the tax upon personal property heretofore paid; they deprive real estate of occupants, and thus increase the general depression, and they diminish the general trade of the city and State by the removal of consumers. Hon. GEORGE H. ANDREWS, one of the most eminent jurists of that State, writing on this subject to the New York *Times*, declares that the tax system of Pennsylvania, adopted within the past ten years, is fifty years in advance of the method prevailing in New York, which he denounces as "a wretched apology and sham, inefficient, unequal, oppressive and injurious." It needs no SOLON to prove that the States these sufferers remove to are benefited in exactly the same proportion that New York is damaged.

BISHOP GILMOUR, the Catholic Bishop of Cleveland, not long ago publicly declared that the priests of that church should refuse the offices of the church to parents who neglect to send their children to parochial schools, and now it appears that the Catholic clergy of Ohio have decided to withhold the rites of confirmation from Catholic children who attend the public schools, the attention of parents being particularly called to this fact. This looks as though the Catholic hierarchy intended, here as elsewhere, to exercise spiritual terrorism over the members of that church with the view of coercing them into the support of the parochial school system. The real object of the Roman clergy in this country is to do away with State schools altogether, and no line of conduct would win for the latter their acquiescence.

OHIO NEWS.

Warren is without a police force.

Columbiana county is to have a new jail.

House thieves have been doing a lively business in Marion county lately.

John Cahill, of Delhi township, Hamilton county, celebrated his 102d birthday on the 14th inst.

A man in Jefferson tapped 100 sugar trees during the late "mild spell," the sap running freely.

A buckwheat cake contest between two boys and two girls of Mt. Vernon panned out a total of ninety-eight.

"Two thousand houses to let in Cincinnati," says the *Enquirer*, and seventy-five deaths per week by small-pox. Bad.

At Mark Center, a son of Robert McGee, died seven years, had his hand chopped off by a son of Mr. A. A. Slough while they were playing together on Monday, February 14th.

The oldest reaping and mowing machine in Ohio, is in Washington county, and is to be sent to the Centennial. It has been in use nineteen years, and has cut over two thousand acres of grain and grass.

There are in Tallmadge forty-seven persons—twenty-four women and twenty-three men—who have lived in the place for half a century. Of this number the ages of forty-two range from seventy to eighty-three years.

The Zanesville *Signal* tells of a very remarkable cow, owned by Andrew Lyons, of High Hill, Muskingum county, whose cream becomes butter as it raises from the milk. It only requires to be skimmed and worked in the ordinary way. This cow is of the Durham breed, and is a heifer.

Mrs. Barbary Maurer, wife of William Maurer, of Perry township, Ashland county, died at her home, December 27, 1875, at the advanced age of one hundred years, four months and seventeen days. Mrs. Maurer was born in Lancaster, Penn., and came to what was then Wayne county in 1821, and settled near the present home of her husband.

Organized Militia in the Several States.

The Secretary of War has transmitted to the Senate a statement showing the aggregate number of the organized militia of the several States respectively, according to the latest returns, received at the office of the Adjutant General of the Army, furnished in answer to a resolution of the Senate, dated January 25, 1876. Seventeen of the States, as will be seen by the returns, have failed to comply with the requirements of section No. 1,636 of the Revised Statutes. Letters have been repeatedly written to the State authorities, urging that the required returns should be duly forwarded, without, however, securing to any reasonable extent the object desired. The following is the statement showing "the aggregate number of the militia of the several States, respectively," according to the latest returns for 1875, received at the office of the Adjutant General of the Army, furnished in answer to a resolution of the Senate of January 25, 1876:

States.	Aggregate organized militia.	States.	Aggregate organized militia.
Maine	875	Texas	1,278
New Hampshire	1,194	Arkansas	11,706
Vermont	626	Kentucky	953
Massachusetts	6,696	Ohio	4,630
Rhode Island	2,042	Michigan	1,984
Connecticut	2,434	Illinois	3,271
New York	19,000	Missouri	229
New Jersey	3,838	Wisconsin	1,737
Pennsylvania	10,583	Minnesota	160
Maryland	1,259	Iowa	2,919
Virginia	498	Kansas	1,934
South Carolina	6,949	California	2,538
Mississippi	650		
Louisiana	826	Grand aggregate	89,983

The States of Delaware, West Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Indiana, Nebraska, Nevada and Oregon have made no returns.

IN MEMORIAM.

[From the Soldiers' and Sailors' Journal.]

[Read at the Annual Encampment of Pennsylvania Department, Grand Army of the Republic, Pittsburgh, January 26, 1876.]

Great Greece hath her Thermopylæ,
Stout Switzerland her Tell;
The Scot his Wallace-heart—and we
Have saints and shrines as well.
The graves of glorious Marathon
Are green above the dead,
And we have battle-fields whereon
The grass at root is red.

Not only in the grizzled past
Tingled heroic blood;
Not only were its swart sons cast
In knightly mold and mood;
Altar of sacrifice perfumed
Our hot, sulphuric air;
And Sidney's shining manhood bloomed
Around us every where.

Brands, regnant as the stainless sword
That graced King Arthur's thigh,
What time our battle-bugle stirred,
Flashed bare beneath the sky;
We felt the vowels of Honor prick
As keenly as did he
Who sowed his savage epoch thick
With perfect chivalry.

Cour-de-leons on every field,
Where saints in every home,
Through whose dear helping stood revealed
The joy of martyrdom—
Compassed by whose assuring loves,
Our comrades dared and died
As blithely as a bridegroom moves
To meet his glowing bride.

Though tears be salt, and wormwood yet
Is bitter to the taste,
God's heart is tender, and doth let
No sorrow fall nor waste.
O, mothers of our Gracchi when
You gave your jewels up,
A continent of hopeless men
Grew rich in boundless hope.

Renown stands mute beside the graves
With which the land is scarred;
Unheralded our splendid braves
Went forth unto the Lord;
No poet hoards their humble names
In his immortal scrolls,
But not the less the darkness flames
With their illumined souls.

Beneath the outward havoc, they
The inward mercy saw;
High intuitions of duty lay
On them as strong as law:
Beyond the bloody horizon
They marked the soft rains stored,
And heard Heaven's tranquil voices run
When Earth's fierce cannon roared.

O, little mounds that cost so much!
We